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ANALYSIS

Trump hints at longer path to denuclearization

By MATTHEW PENNINGTON
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Even by President Donald Trump's mercurial standards, it was a quick shift.

A week after abruptly canceling his historic summit with Kim Jong Un, Trump announced it was back on — and in the process appeared to accede to a key North Korean demand.

Beyond the symbolism of Friday's Oval Office meeting between Trump and Kim Yong Chol — the most senior North Korean official to step inside the White House in 18 years — Trump signaled a subtle change in his administration's approach toward the goal of getting the pariah nation to give up its nuclear weapons.

SEE HINTS ON PAGE 6



Trump

Rare decision grants sex assault survivor honorable discharge

By DIANNA CAHN
Stars and Stripes

WASHINGTON — His assailants were relentless.

Heath Phillips was 17 — a fresh, young sailor on his first Navy ship. There, a gang of six sailors zeroed in on their prey, raping and beating him repeatedly. He tried reporting them, but for 45 days, his superiors shrugged off his complaints and sent him back for more.

Terrified, Phillips went absent without leave. He got caught and sent back and was molested again, so he went AWOL again.

After five times, desperate to get out, he agreed to an "other than honorable" discharge from the Navy.

He's been fighting to get that reversed ever since.

SEE RARE ON PAGE 2



'Honor their valor'

Normandy jump pays tribute to D-Day paratroopers

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Paratroopers land near Sainte-Mere-Eglise, France, on Sunday as they follow in the footsteps of those who risked their lives there 74 years ago on D-Day.

MICHAEL ABRAMS/Stars and Stripes

MILITARY

Rare: Phillips hopes ruling will send message to others

FROM FRONT PAGE

He told his story to anyone who would listen. He became the voice of male sexual trauma in the military. He helped advocate for other survivors and stood before Congress, testifying to his own shame and trauma as he pressed for reform.

He appealed three times to the naval corrections board to change his status to honorable. Three times he was rejected.

But Phillips, too, was relentless. Last week, nearly 29 years after he was discharged, his doggedness paid off. In response to his fourth try, the Board for Correction of Naval Records agreed on Wednesday to overturn his record and grant him an honorable discharge.

"For 25-plus years, I have been plagued with the stigma of having an other than honorable discharge because I was raped and retaliated against," said Phillips, now 47, who struggled with anxiety, post-traumatic stress disorder, nightmares and alcoholism.

"I have 20 years of my life I won't get back," he said. "What pushes and drives me is that I don't want anyone else to ever go through that."

The board not only upgraded Phillips' original discharge designation but it granted him more than he'd requested — giving him an RE-1J code, which means he was eligible to re-enlist, but he declined.

It was almost unheard of. "Kind of like lightning striking twice," said Col. Don Christensen, a former military judge and president of Protect our Defenders, which is fighting to end the scourge of rape in the military.

Christensen said the deck was stacked against Phillips when he

opted for discharge rather than court-martial all those years ago — even if it was just to get away from his assailants.

But the fact that the case was so old and attempts to overturn it had been rejected made the outcome all the more rare.

"That's what makes his case in particular such an amazing success," Christensen said, noting that to him, it showed that the perspective of military correction boards is changing.

"I think it's a good sign they are moving in the right direction," he said. "But the sad thing is the military isn't getting the message, and we are still seeing people getting the same treatment. Hate got back in the '80s with a huge retaliation problem."

Report, retaliation

Despite a decade of Pentagon efforts, military sexual assault remains pervasive.

According to the latest data released in January, 14,900 members of the military were sexually assaulted in 2016 — 8,600 women and 6,300 men. Many were assaulted repeatedly, nearly tripling the number of assaults. One in four women and one in three men were assaulted by someone in their chain of command.

Most cases still go unreported, and of those who do report, 58 percent of women and 60 percent of men faced retaliation — mostly from within their chain of command. A third of those who report sexual assault leave the military within a year, Christensen said. And victims receive harsher discharges, with 24 percent separated under less than honorable conditions — a rate far higher than the general military population.

After he was released from the



Courtesy of Heath Phillips

Heath Phillips holds a picture of himself at 17 years of age.

“There is light at the end of that very, very long tunnel, and it's not out of reach.”

Heath Phillips

discharged U.S. Navy sailor

Navy, Phillips, still not 18, was not doing well. He was anxious all the time. He couldn't sleep and had nightmares.

He married a childhood friend, starting a long and rocky marriage in which he said he spent the first years angry, often drunk

and “always miserable.” He woke up choking his wife in his sleep, and they separated and got back together more times than he can count. They ultimately divorced.

“I don't know why she put up with me,” he said. “For many, many years, I was a jerk.”

He soon learned he was not eligible for medical help through the Department of Veterans Affairs due to his other than honorable discharge. He had trouble finding work. He drank more.

His wife came into the marriage with a son, and they had four more children. But it was only in 2009 — 20 years after his discharge — that Phillips sought help. It was the morning after he tried to kill himself by driving into a tree, he said.

“It's the road I still drive today — there are so many trees that are perfect,” he said. “I thank God I was too drunk to find one of them.”

The next morning, for the first time in 20 years, he cried. A lot.

He knew he wouldn't survive. It was affecting him and affecting his children, he said. He blames himself that one of his sons has an addiction problem.

Fighting for fixes

After that, Phillips started fighting to take his life back. In 2015, he won back his VA rights through the board of veterans appeals in Washington. He is now rated a 100 percent service-connected disability for PTSD.

And he joined forces with other advocacy groups to reform the military's treatment of rape and sexual assault cases and to protect those who report assault from retaliation.

Phillips took his fight public. He is one of a very few male victims

of sexual assault who openly tells his story.

It was through his advocacy work that he connected with his attorney, Coco Culhane, director of the Veteran Advocacy Project at the Urban Justice Center in New York City. Culhane pulled together new information for his case and, working with legal services at Protect Our Defenders, submitted a thick packet to the corrections board.

In its decision, the board wrote that it carefully reviewed the mitigating factors. Among them: the fact that Phillips was a victim of military sexual trauma, or MST, and that created “a mitigating mental health condition” that impacted his decision to sign the discharge papers all those years ago. That was something a prior board review had rejected.

It also referred to the fact that his petition “notes that he volunteers his efforts to raise awareness to other MST survivors and is an advocate for legislative reforms.”

After all these years, his tenacity, coupled with his advocacy work, proved to be the winning combination, Christensen said.

“When you see someone like Heath come forward and be public and then, ultimately, have success, it's going to inspire other men that they can come forward, too,” he said.

For Phillips, the ruling ended almost 20 lost years. But it is vindication. He hopes it will be a message to others.

“There is light at the end of that very, very long tunnel, and it's not out of reach,” he said. “I never in a million years thought I would get that upgrade.”

cahn.dianna@stripes.com
Twitter: @DiannaCahn

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KRISTI KIMMEL

kimmel.kristi@stripes.com

+49 (0) 631-3615-9013

MIDDLE EAST

KRISTI KIMMEL

kimmel.kristi@stripes.com

+49 (0) 631-3615-9013

PACIFIC

ICHIRO
KATAYANAGI

CustomerHelp@Stripes.com

ADVERTISING

+81(3) 6385.3267 DSN 315.229.3267

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MILITARY

US Marine saves diver off Okinawa

By JAMES BOLINGER
Stars and Stripes

Gunnery Sgt. Scott Dahn was assisting his wife with an underwater rescue course last month at Maeda Point, Okinawa, when he noticed a Chinese scuba diver flailing in panic.

Ching-Yi Sze — who was honeymooning on the southern Japanese island prefecture during the May 20 incident — ripped off her mask. When a dive leader put it back on, she pulled out her regulator, which he also replaced, said Dahn, who initially assumed the two were training. But when the woman again removed her mask and regulator, Dahn — a 3rd Maintenance Battalion training chief based at Camp Kinser — immediately responded.

“She was flailing in the water, which is usually the sign of a panicked diver,” he said.

When Dahn reached Ching-Yi, who was 30 feet away, he put the regulator back in her mouth. She spat it out, so he grabbed it and pushed against her teeth until she opened up, he said. Dahn then held the regulator to her face and signaled to the dive leader that they needed to head up.

By the time they reached the surface, Ching-Yi was unresponsive and barely breathing. Her lips were blue, her eyes had rolled back into her head and she was foaming at the mouth because of the saltwater she had ingested.

Dahn inflated her buoyancy-control vest and began towing her to shore.



ANDREW NEUMANN/Courtesy of the U.S. Marine Corps

Gunnery Sgt. Scott Dahn saved Ching-Yi Sze from drowning off Okinawa, Japan, on May 20.

‘She was flailing in the water, which is usually the sign of a panicked diver.’

Gunnery Sgt. Scott Dahn

3rd Maintenance Battalion training chief based at Camp Kinser in Okinawa

When they reached land, he carried her up several flights of stairs and helped her breath through an oxygen tank while his wife, April, called for paramedics.

Dahn laid Ching-Yi on her left side while she coughed up seawater. “I put my head to her chest to listen to her breathing,” he said. “I didn’t hear any gurgling, and after 10 to 15 minutes, the color began to return to her face.”

Ching-Yi made a full recovery after a short hospital stay and

finished her honeymoon with a snorkeling trip before returning to Hong Kong, Dahn said.

The pair have spoken several times since the incident and are now friends on social media.

“I don’t know if my husband could find another girl like me,” Ching-Yi said in a Marine Corps statement about the incident. “I can’t express how grateful I am for [Dahn].”

bolinger.james@stripes.com
Twitter: @bolinger2004

Air Force boosting number of available airmen promotions

By WILLIAM HOWARD
Stars and Stripes

The number of airmen who can earn immediate performance-based promotions will nearly double in the coming fiscal year, Air Force officials announced.

Available slots throughout the Air Force for the Stripes for Exceptional Performers program, or STEP, will rise to 180 in October from 96, the service said in a statement Thursday.

The Air Force will release full guidance and a breakdown of how many slots each command will receive on its personnel website at <https://mypsers.af.mil>.

“Increasing STEP allocations is another way we’re empowering commanders at every level to identify and reward their top performers,” Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. David L. Goldfein said in a statement.

The STEP program allows major commands, field operating agencies, direct reporting unit commanders and senior Air Force officers with large enlisted populations to promote airmen to the ranks of staff sergeant through master sergeant.

Selections for STEP promotions are based on recommendations from subordinate commanders with personal knowledge of air-

men — the intent being to avoid time-consuming administrative boards.

“Not only does this help support our senior leaders’ focus on revitalizing squadrons but it also helps to save (airmen’s) time,” Air Force Chief Master Sgt. Kalleth O. Wright said in a statement.

Only one STEP promotion is allowed during an airman’s career, with selections based on multiple achievements rather than isolated acts of heroism.

Two examples of top performers from the Air Force’s STEP guidelines include a technical sergeant who recruits three times the number of quality enlistees than in the previous year at an underperforming detachment while starting innovative programs for future recruiting, and a staff sergeant involved in long exercises who for six months filled her own position and that of a senior master sergeant. Her work unit was judged noteworthy based on major improvements to the exercise.

For STEP eligibility, airmen must meet minimum Air Force time-in-service requirements and have completed their professional military education.

howard.william@stripes.com
Twitter @HowardStripes

Iwakuni dedicates clinic to Vietnam War hero

By JAMES BOLINGER
Stars and Stripes

MARINE CORPS AIR STATION IWAKUNI, Japan — A health clinic that opened at the largest U.S. Marine base on mainland Japan on Thursday has been named for a hospital corpsman awarded a posthumous Navy Cross for valor during the Vietnam War.

The Robert M. Casey Naval Family Branch Clinic at MCAS Iwakuni honors the corpsman, who rendered aid to members of the 1st Marine Division despite his own wounds on May 16, 1968.

The facility, funded by the U.S. Navy and the Japanese government, took two years to build and was supposed to open late last year, replacing an older clinic.

The opening was delayed by slower-than-expected construction and manning shortages, said Erika Figueroa, a spokeswoman for U.S. Naval Hospital Yokosuka.

The number of medical staff at Iwakuni has slowly increased as the Navy moved squadrons from Carrier Air Wing 5 to the base. “We wanted to make sure we

had the right people in place and enough manning with civilian and military providers,” Figueroa said. “There will be surgeries performed there, specifically C-

‘The timing for such a facility could not have come soon enough.’

Cmdr. Jessica Beard

commanding officer of the Robert M. Casey Naval Family Branch Clinic

sections, so having the right people in place is important.” The facility is the only one of its type in the Pacific that can deliver babies and provide obstetrical surgeries, Figueroa said. It began providing outpatient care last month and has a 24-hour maternal infant center with six labor, delivery, recovery and postpartum suites that weren’t available at the old clinic. It also has two obstetrics-related surgical suites.

“Enhancing and expanding the services available to our Marines, sailors and their families

in this state-of-the-art health care facility results directly from Navy Medicine’s commitment to preserve the health and readiness of those entrusted to our care,” said Rear Adm. Paul Pearigen, chief of the Navy Medical Corps.

“While this new facility is certainly impressive, what’s even more impressive is its heart and soul, the dedicated professionals — the hospital corpsmen, the Navy doctors and nurses and the civilian staff — who embrace the privilege of caring for our servicemembers and their families,” he said.

The clinic will help keep servicemembers at Iwakuni healthy, Cmdr. Jessica Beard, the clinic’s commanding officer, said in a news release.

“With a rapidly growing population onboard MCAS Iwakuni, we remain focused on delivering the high-quality medical services that Navy Medicine is known for,” she said. “The timing for such a facility could not have come soon enough.”

bolinger.james@stripes.com
Twitter: @bolinger2004



PHOTOS BY JAMES BOLINGER/Stars and Stripes

Above: The Robert M. Casey Naval Family Branch Clinic at Marine Corps Air Station Iwakuni, Japan, honors a corpsman who rendered aid to members of the 1st Marine Division despite suffering from his own wounds on May 16, 1968, during the Vietnam War. Below: The facility offers a birthing room.



MILITARY



Staff Sgt. Krasean Clayborn, who enlisted in the Army in 2003 from Milwaukee, was found dead in his barracks Friday.

Facebook

Paratrooper found dead in barracks is identified

BY NANCY MONTGOMERY
Stars and Stripes

VICENZA, Italy — A 173rd Airborne Brigade paratrooper found dead in his barracks on Caserma Ederle on Friday has been identified as Staff Sgt. Krasean Clayborn, 36.

There were no signs of foul play, and an investigation into Clayborn's cause of death was underway, said Maj. Christopher Bradley, a spokesman for the 173rd Airborne Brigade. Clayborn's body was found by the chain of command in the Caserma Ederle barracks after he didn't show up for work, Bradley said.

Clayborn, who enlisted in the

Army in 2003 from Milwaukee, joined the brigade in 2016. He was a career counselor and the recipient of the Army Commendation Medal and the Army Achievement Medal.

"We're deeply saddened by the loss of this paratrooper," Bradley said.

Clayborn is the second paratrooper found dead in the barracks on Caserma Ederle in less than a year. In August, fellow soldiers found the body of infantryman Pfc. Andrew Young, 21. Army officials declined to disclose Young's cause of death, although they said there was no sign of foul play.

montgomery.nancy@starsandstripes.com
Twitter: @montgomerynancy

Teenage Marine in training dies a week after reporting

BY CATILIN DOORNBOS
Stars and Stripes

A teenage Marine died May 25 during a training run on Okinawa — just one week after arriving at his new duty station.

Donavan Macura, 19, of Kailispell, Mont., was on a 3-mile run when he suddenly dropped to one knee, had a seizure and collapsed, according to the Daily Inter Lake newspaper, of Kailispell. Family members were unaware of any previous medical conditions that could have caused his death.

Macura — whose rank was not immediately available — had left Camp Pendleton, Calif., for Oki-

nawa on May 19, the Marine's friends said on social media.

Macura enlisted in the Marine Corps after high school, according to the Flathead Beacon. His high school wrestling coach told the Montana newspaper that Macura "stood for what the Marines stand for: doing the right things, working hard, being disciplined, watching out for each other."

Macura would have turned 20 years old on Thursday.

A Marine Corps spokesman called Macura's death a "regrettable loss" and said the incident is under investigation.

doornbos.caitlin@starsandstripes.com
Twitter: CaitlinDoornbos

Newly renovated base exchange opens at Yokota

BY SETH ROBSON
Stars and Stripes

YOKOTA AIR BASE, Japan — A massive, newly renovated base exchange officially opened Friday at the home of U.S. Forces Japan and 5th Air Force in western Tokyo.

The Army and Air Force Exchange Service has added 25,000 feet of floor space to its largest facility at Yokota so that it can accommodate products that were sold at a BXtra shop on the west side of the installation that shut down last year.

Expanded to 70,000 square feet, the store now sells everything from furniture, sporting goods and gardening supplies to electronics, clothing and alcohol.

Shops and restaurants that were on the second floor of the Yokota Community Center — a mall that accommodates the exchange — have moved downstairs.

Crowds of shoppers flooded aisles during Friday's "re-grand opening," filling shopping carts with discounted products after officials cut a ribbon and a cake to reopen the facility.

Yokota exchange manager Shi-

USAFE flies Reaper drone from Poland for first time

BY JENNIFER H. SVAN
Stars and Stripes

The U.S. Air Force is flying for the first time at least one unarmed, unmanned drone from an air base in Poland, a move that comes soon after Warsaw said it wants to pay for a permanent American military presence in the country.

U.S. Air Forces in Europe said in a recent statement that it is operating an MQ-9 Reaper aircraft at Miroslawiec Air Base "as a visible expression of U.S. efforts to enhance regional stability."

The base in northwestern Poland has hosted drones for a little more than two years, according to The Aviationist, a military aviation blog.

European security analysts say the drone mission is likely aimed at watching Russia's movements along borders and coastal areas.

The U.S. has greatly increased its activity in Eastern Europe as part of a NATO mission to reassure allies following the Russian annexation of the Crimean Peninsula in 2014.

USAFE's "priority for this mission is to maintain ready and positive forces on land, in the air, and at sea," USAFE spokeswoman Auburn Davis said in a statement following questions from Stars and Stripes.

"These aircraft, as currently configured, are unarmed and are only used for [intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance] in support of U.S. foreign policy security objectives and those of our regional partners," Davis said.

The end date of the mission at Miroslawiec depends on funding, operational needs and other factors, Davis said.

Officials could not share exact numbers of U.S. aircraft or personnel deployed to Poland due to security concerns.

A mix of uniformed military, civilian and contract personnel will operate from the base to provide program support, Davis said.

No additional aircraft will be deployed to support the Reaper mission in Poland, which began last month, officials said.

The Reaper is used primarily by the U.S. military to find and strike high-value targets in countries such as Afghanistan and Iraq.

It's unlikely that the aircraft is being used as a combat deterrent to Russia, said Gustav Gressel, a senior policy fellow at the European Council on Foreign Relations in Berlin.

"In any conflict scenario, the Russian air defense would be quite able to take it down," Gressel said.

The Reaper is a light aircraft with no electronic warfare defense capabilities against sophisticated Russian air defense systems, he said.

It's more plausible, Gressel said, that the Reaper could be used to survey coastal areas along the Baltic Sea — where the Russian navy has increased its exercises and other maneuvers, as well as the border near the Russian enclave of Kaliningrad and near Belarus, a Russian ally.

The Reaper could be used to support border patrols, he said.

"It can stay over ground for a very long time," Gressel said.

But "a deeper look into Russia" is unlikely, Gressel said, because the Reaper can't overfly Russian territory and doesn't have a particularly long range.

The Reaper announcement comes as the Polish government is vying for a permanent U.S. military presence in Poland.

The Polish defense ministry wants to host a permanent U.S. armored division and has offered up to \$2 billion in funding, according to a ministry proposal.

"Establishing such a force is necessary to present an unequivocal challenge and deterrence to Russia's increasingly emboldened and dangerous posture that threatens Europe," said the proposal, which was obtained by Polish news outlet Onet.

Poland and the Baltic states host U.S. military and NATO units that deploy on a rotational basis.

The defense of "the eastern flank is very much about time," Gressel said. "Russia enjoys a superiority in dictating time and location of the confrontation."

"The more forces predeployed to the east, the easier this gets," Gressel said, adding that Poland's desire to have more troops deployed is understandable.

svan.jennifer@starsandstripes.com
Twitter: @jenspektown

Marine taken into custody after fatal crash

BY HANA KUSUMOTO
Stars and Stripes

TOKYO — An Okinawa-based Marine was in Japanese police custody Friday, days after his car collided with a motorcycle, killing its driver.

Cpl. Mauricio Ambriz Camacho, 21, was driving in Nagao city about 2 p.m. on May 27 when he

reportedly crossed the center line of a curved roadway and ran head-on into an oncoming motorcycle, a Nagao police spokesman said.

The motorcyclist — a 45-year-old Okinawan man — was taken to a hospital and died later of hemorrhagic shock caused by whole-body contusion.

Camacho, who is assigned to Camp Hansen, was arrested on

suspicion of negligent driving causing injury.

Because the motorcyclist later died, police last Tuesday referred the case to the prosecutors as negligent driving causing death, the spokesman said.

Police are investigating the incident but said alcohol was not involved.

kusumoto.hana@starsandstripes.com



ALLEN ONSTOTT/Stars and Stripes

374th Airlift Wing commander Col. Kenneth Moss congratulates employees during the official opening of the renovated base exchange at Yokota Air Base, Japan, on Friday

robson.seth@starsandstripes.com
Twitter: @SethRobson1

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Mattis: US troops in S. Korea won't be discussed at summit

BY KIM GAMEL

Stars and Stripes

SEOUL, South Korea — The fate of U.S. troops in South Korea won't be up for negotiation during President Donald Trump's June 12 summit with North Korea, the U.S. defense secretary said.

Saturday's comments by Defense Secretary Jim Mattis came hours after Trump confirmed he would hold nuclear talks with Kim Jong Un in Singapore, reversing last month's announcement that he was canceling the summit.

Underlining the sensitivity of the issue, the North on Sunday renewed its criticism of Seoul for planning to join Washington in military exercises, despite the allies' insistence that the drills are defensive in nature.

Mattis said "any discussion about the number of U.S. troops" would be between Washington and Seoul, and the issue was "separate and distinct from the negotiations that are going on with (North Korea)."

"That issue will not come up in the discussions with (North Korea) and as you all recognize, those troops are there as a recognition of a security challenge," he said Saturday at an international security forum in Singapore.

Trump sought to lower expectations for the meeting, backing away from previous calls for the North to abandon its nuclear weapons program quickly in exchange for security assurances and other benefits.

"It will be a beginning. I don't say I've never said it happens in one meeting," he said Friday after meeting with Kim Yong Chol, the most senior North Korean official to visit the United States in 18 years. Kim delivered a letter from the North Korean leader.

"You're talking about years of hostility; years of problems; years of, really, hatred between so many different nations," Trump said. "Now we're going to deal, and we're going to really start a process."

In separate remarks Sunday, Mattis told his South Korean and Japanese counterparts that he hoped the diplomatic process would work but the militaries must remain strong.

"We can anticipate, at best, a bumpy road to the negotiations," the defense secretary said at the start of a trilateral meeting on the final day of the Shangri-La Dialogue.

He stressed that international economic sanctions aimed at punishing the North for its nuclear activities would remain in place until a deal is made.

"North Korea will receive relief only when it demonstrates verifiable and irreversible steps to denuclearization," he said.

The presence of some 28,500 American servicemen in the South is the cornerstone of the alliance that fought together against the communist-backed North in the 1950-53 Korean War.

Washington also extends protection to Japan and South Korea under its so-called nuclear umbrella.

Trump said last month that the troop presence would not be on the table, although he added that

he would like to "save the money" in the future. That suggests he may reconsider the issue as part of bilateral negotiations over cost-sharing with the South.

North Korea has demanded the removal of U.S. troops as a condition for peace in past negotiations.

Officials say North Korea hasn't raised the issue in the current talks, but it canceled a high-level inter-Korean meeting to protest joint military exercises on the divided peninsula last month.

Sunday's commentary in state-run media singled out international maritime drills beginning later this month in Hawaii and annual U.S.-South Korea war games known as Ulchi Freedom Guardian expected in August.

"The racket of seeking military confrontation with the capitalists in the north can never be justified as it is against the unanimous demand of all Koreans and the trend of the times," the Korean Central News Agency said, citing a commentary in the Minju Jonson newspaper.

North Korea regularly denounces the military exercises, which it considers rehearsal for an invasion, but such criticism takes on added significance amid the flurry of diplomacy.

U.S. troops in South Korea as well as on bases in Japan and Guam also are seen as a counterbalance to Chinese influence in the region.

A key reason China, the North's main ally and economic lifeline, supports Pyongyang is to maintain a buffer zone between the Americans and its borders.



Yong Teck Lim/AP

From left, South Korean National Defense Minister Song Young-moo, U.S. Defense Secretary Jim Mattis and Japanese Defense Minister Itsunori Onodera shake hands at the 17th International Institute for Strategic Studies Shangri-La Dialogue in Singapore on Sunday.

Mattis vowed to "hold the line" with South Korea as an ally and stressed the U.S. goal was the "complete, verifiable and irreversible ... denuclearization of the Korean Peninsula," according to a Defense Department transcript.

He acknowledged the issue of U.S. troops may come up in discussions with South Korea "if the diplomats can do their work — if we can reduce the threat."

"But that issue is not on the table here in Singapore on the 12th nor should it be," he added.

Some South Korean officials and politicians have suggested that U.S. troops would no longer be needed if peace with the North is achieved.

President Moon Jae-in has distanced himself from the idea, insisting that U.S. forces would not be part of peace negotiations.

Past U.S. administrations have had mixed success in changing the force structure on the divided peninsula, which remains technically at war since the conflict ended in an armistice instead of a peace treaty.

Former President Jimmy Carter tried to withdraw them after taking office in 1977 but failed after hitting a wall of opposition from his top aide.

Richard Nixon withdrew about a third of 60,000 servicemen in 1971 despite strong opposition from the South.

George W. Bush shifted many of the troops to Iraq in the years after the U.S. invaded that nation in 2003. His father, George H.W. Bush, removed tactical nuclear weapons from South Korea in the early 1990s.

gamel.kim@stripes.com
Twitter: @kimgamel

Hints: Trump has given no timetable for getting N. Korea to denuclearize

FROM FRONT PAGE

U.S. officials have previously been calling for North Korea to abandon its nukes rapidly, with the expectation of getting better terms in the form of security assurances, sanctions relief and the opportunity to boost its meager economy.

But as he spoke to reporters Friday, Trump repeatedly referred to the June 12 summit in Singapore — a first between the leaders of the U.S. and North Korea — as the start of a "process," and said it was likely the most important meeting would be necessary to bring about his goal of denuclearizing the Korean Peninsula.

"June 12th, we'll be in Singapore," Trump said after his lengthy goodbye with Kim Yong Chol, a former North Korean military intelligence chief, whom he escorted to a black SUV. "It will be a beginning. I don't say I've never said it happens in one meeting. You're talking about years of hostility; years of problems; years of, really, hatred between so many different nations. But I think you're going to have a very positive result in the end."

Trump gave no indication of what kind of timetable he might have in mind for getting North Korea to abandon a weapons program it views as a guarantee for the survival of its authoritarian regime. Still,

his comments marked a sea change from the views expressed weeks earlier by his national security adviser John Bolton, who was notably absent from Friday's meeting.

Bolton, who before taking office in April advocated military action against North Korea, had pointed to the disarmament of Libya in 2003 and 2004 in exchange for sanctions relief as a model for a possible deal with North Korea. For the North, that was a deeply provocative comparison, because Libyan leader Muammar Gadhafi was killed following U.S.-supported military action in his country about seven years after giving up his fledgling nuclear program.

Rather than surrender its program all at once as Gadhafi did, North Korea has repeatedly said it envisions a "progressive and synchronous" approach, where it gets benefits along the way. The latest expression of that came Thursday from Kim Jong Un himself when he met in Pyongyang with Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov.

In a dispatch Friday, the North Korean state news agency cited Kim saying "he hoped that the DPRK-U.S. relations and the denuclearization of the Korean Peninsula will be solved on a stage-by-stage basis." DPRK refers to the North's official name, the Democratic People's Republic of

Korea.

That sounds reminiscent of past U.S. efforts to negotiate North Korea's disarmament with incentives of aid since the mid-1990s — efforts that have ultimately failed. The Trump administration has often said it can't afford to repeat those mistakes because of the threat that North Korean nuclear-tipped missiles now pose to the continental U.S.

But there's always been doubt about whether it was realistic to expect instant results — both because of North Korea's negotiating position and the scale and sophistication of its weapons program.

Last week, Stanford University experts — including nuclear physicist Siegfried Hecker, who has inspected North Korea atomic facilities firsthand — proposed a denuclearization road map spanning 10 years. They warned that the idea of shipping the North's nuclear weapons out of the country was "naïve and dangerous."

North Korea has shown some goodwill — halting missile tests for six months so far — and last week demolishing key areas of its nuclear test site in front of international journalists. It has also released three American detainees.

Now Trump, keen to strike a historic deal with a bitter U.S. adversary, appears eager

for rapprochement to work. After meeting Kim Yong Chol, the president said he was putting new sanctions against the North on hold and doesn't want to use the term "maximum pressure" anymore — referring to his signature policy to isolate Pyongyang economically and diplomatically.

That may ease fears of renewed confrontation that fueled fears of war last year. But doubts linger about North Korea's intentions.

By hosting a top official from the North — whose trip to New York and Washington required waiving a travel ban against him — Trump has provided an early public relations victory for an isolated government eager for international recognition. He's also generated considerable expectations about how the summit can herald a warm relationship between longstanding enemies.

Hawks in the U.S. administration may also be concerned that Trump, who often complained during his election campaign about American military burdens overseas, would ultimately agree to a timetable for denuclearization by North Korea in exchange for withdrawing American troops from South Korea — removing a military tripwire to deter aggression by the North.

NATION

Lawyers: Trump can't be compelled to testify

In letter to special counsel, they assert president has absolute authority over federal probes

By JONATHAN LEMIRE
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — President Donald Trump's lawyers composed a secret, 20-page letter to special counsel Robert Mueller to assert that he cannot be forced to testify, while arguing that he could not have committed obstruction because he has absolute authority over all federal investigations.

The existence of the letter, which was first reported and posted by The New York Times on Saturday, was a bold assertion of presidential power and another front on which Trump's lawyers have argued that the president can't be subpoenaed in the special counsel's ongoing investigation into Russian meddling in the 2016 election.

The letter is dated Jan. 29 and addressed to Mueller from John

Dowd, one of Trump's lawyers at the time who has since resigned. In the letter, Trump's lawyers argue that a charge of illegal obstruction is moot because the Constitution empowers the president to, "if he wished, terminate the inquiry, or even exercise his power to pardon."

Trump weighed in on Saturday on Twitter, asking, "Is the Special Counsel/Justice Department leaking my lawyers letters to the Fake News Media?" He added: "When will this very expensive Witch Hunt Hoax ever end? So bad for our Country."

Mueller has requested an interview with the president to determine whether he had criminal intent to obstruct the investigation into his associates' possible links to Russia's election interference.

Trump had previously signaled that he would be willing to sit for an interview, but his legal team, including Rudy Giuliani, have privately and publicly expressed concern that the president could risk charges of perjury.

If Trump does not consent to an interview, Mueller will have to decide whether to seek a historic grand jury subpoena. His team raised the possibility in March of subpoenaing the president, but it is not clear if it is still under active consideration. Giuliani has told The Associated Press that the president's legal team believes the special counsel does not have the authority to do so.

A court battle is likely if Trump's team argues that the president can't be forced to answer questions or be charged with

obstruction of justice. President Bill Clinton was charged with obstruction in 1998 by the House of Representatives as part of his impeachment trial. And one of the articles of impeachment prepared against Richard Nixon in 1974 was for obstruction.

Topics of Mueller's obstruction investigation include the firings of both former FBI Director James Comey and former National Security Adviser Michael Flynn, as well as Trump's reaction to Attorney General Jeff Sessions' recusal from the Russia investigation.

In addition to the legal battles, Trump's team and allies have waged a public relations campaign against Mueller to discredit the investigation and soften the impact of the special counsel's potential findings. Giuliani said last week

that the special counsel probe may be an "entirely illegitimate investigation" and need to be curtailed because, in his estimation, it was based on inappropriately obtained information from an informant and Comey's memos.

In reality, the FBI began a counterintelligence investigation in July 2016 to determine if Trump campaign associates were coordinating with Russia to tip the election. The investigation was opened after the hacking of Democratic emails that intelligence officials later formally attributed to Russia.

Giuliani has said a decision will not be made about a possible presidential interview with the special counsel until after Trump's summit with North Korean leader Kim Jong Un on June 12 in Singapore.

Snowden leaks still trickle out 5 years on

By DEB RIECHMANN
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Whistle-blower or traitor, leaker or public hero?

Former National Security Agency contractor Edward Snowden, 34, blew the lid off U.S. government surveillance methods five years ago, but intelligence chiefs complain that revelations from the trove of classified documents he disclosed are still trickling out.

That includes recent reporting on a mass surveillance program run by close U.S. ally Japan, and on how the NSA targeted bitcoin users to gather intelligence on counterterrorism, narcotics and money laundering — both stories published by The Intercept, an investigative publication with access to Snowden documents.

The top U.S. counterintelligence official said journalists have been publicly released only about 1 percent taken by the American, now living in exile in Russia, "so we don't see this issue ending anytime soon."

"This past year, we had more international, Snowden-related documents and breaches than ever," Bill Evanina, National Counterintelligence and Security Center, said at a recent conference. "Since 2013, when Snowden left, there have been thousands of articles around the world with really sensitive stuff that's been leaked."

On June 5, 2013, The Guardian in Britain published the first story based on Snowden's disclosures.



Edward Snowden appears on a live video feed broadcast from Moscow in 2015 at an event sponsored by the American Civil Liberties Union Hawaii in Honolulu.

It revealed that a secret court order was allowing the U.S. government to get Verizon to share the phone records of millions of Americans. Later stories, including those in The Washington Post, disclosed information: snooping and how U.S. and British spy agencies had accessed information from cables carrying the world's telephone and internet traffic.

Snowden's defenders maintain that the U.S. government has for years exaggerated the damage his disclosures caused. Glenn Greenwald, a former journalist at The Guardian, said there are "thousands upon thousands of

documents" that journalists have chosen not to publish because they would harm peoples' reputation or privacy rights or because it would expose "legitimate surveillance programs."

"It's been almost five years since newspapers around the world began reporting on the Snowden archive, and the NSA has offered all kinds of shrill and reckless rhetoric about the 'damage' it has caused, but never any evidence of a single case of a life being endangered let alone harmed," Greenwald said.

U.S. intelligence officials say they are still counting the cost of his disclosures that went beyond actual intelligence collected to how it was collected. Evanina said intelligence agencies are finishing their seventh classified assessment of the damage.

Joel Melstad, a spokesman for the counterintelligence center, said five U.S. intelligence agencies contributed to the latest damage assessment, which itself is highly classified. Melstad said damage has been observed or verified in five categories of information the U.S. government keeps classified to protect national security.

GOP ex-convict in NYC seeks return to Congress

By STEVE PEOPLES
Associated Press

NEW YORK — Michael Grimm doesn't want to talk about his time in prison. He just wants your vote.

The former Republican congressman from New York City's Staten Island is fighting his party, his president and the stigma of a felony conviction in a no-holds-barred primary June 26.

Just two years out of prison, the amateur boxer with a fiery temper wants his old job back. And he has a legitimate chance to seize the nomination from the incumbent, Dan Donovan.

Just don't ask Grimm about his time behind bars for tax fraud.

"I'm done talking about it," Grimm said in a recent Associated Press interview, blaming his seven-month stay in a federal prison on a politically motivated Justice Department under the Obama administration. "It's a closed chapter in my life. I'm looking to the future."

President Donald Trump spotlighted the race with a Twitter endorsement of Donovan, warning that a Grimm primary victory would risk losing the GOP's only U.S. House seat in the city.

"Remember Alabama," Trump wrote, likening Grimm to Republican Roy Moore, the Alabama Senate candidate who was nominated despite being accused of molesting teenage girls and who lost the general election to a Democrat in the GOP stronghold.

Trump's decision to step into New York's turbulent GOP primary tests the strength of his influence in his hometown's only conservative pocket. The 11th Congressional District covers the quiet streets of Staten Island as well as a slice of southern Brooklyn.

It is truly the heart of New

York's Trump country and is home to many white, working-class voters — police officers, firefighters and hairdressers — who have sent a Republican to Washington for most of the past decade.

Donovan, 61, a former public prosecutor, isn't shy about highlighting Grimm's criminal history.

"Once you betray the community, you don't get a second chance," Donovan told the AP as he toured the district last week. "This race comes down to integrity: Who can the public trust?"

Grimm, 48, is a former Marine and FBI agent who represented the area from 2011 to 2015.

He survived a political firestorm in 2014 after his violent threat against a reporter on Capitol Hill was caught on video. A year later, Grimm was forced to resign after pleading guilty to felony tax fraud involving a restaurant he partially owned before going to Congress.

In an interview, Grimm suggested that Donovan dangled the possibility of a presidential pardon should he abandon his primary challenge. A Donovan spokeswoman denied the claim.

A spokeswoman for Trump, who pardoned one conservative supporter last week and is contemplating other pardons, did not respond to questions about a possible pardon for Grimm, who insists his harsh sentence was politically motivated.

Does Grimm want a pardon?

"Of course. I don't know of anyone who wouldn't, especially in my circumstances," Grimm told the AP.

While Grimm's criminal history is a central issue in the race, so is loyalty to Trump.

Grimm's campaign released a new TV ad on Friday that says, "Every time it mattered, Dan Donovan voted against President Trump."

NATION

Study: Breast cancer doesn't mean chemo

By MARILYNN MARCHIONE
Associated Press

CHICAGO — Most women with the most common form of early stage breast cancer can safely skip chemotherapy without hurting their chances of beating the disease, doctors are reporting from a landmark study that used genetic testing to gauge each patient's risk.

The study is the largest ever done of breast cancer treatment, and the results are expected to spare up to 70,000 patients a year in the United States and many more elsewhere the ordeal and expense of those drugs.

"The impact is tremendous," said the study leader, Dr. Joseph Sparano, of Montefiore Medical Center in New York. Most women in this situation don't need treatment beyond surgery and hormone therapy, and "the rest of them are receiving chemotherapy unnecessarily."

The study was funded by the National Cancer Institute, some foundations and proceeds from the U.S. breast cancer postage stamp. Results were discussed Sunday at an American Society of Clinical Oncology conference in Chicago and published by the New England Journal of Medicine. Some study leaders consult for breast cancer drugmakers or for the company that makes the gene test.

Cancer care has been evolving away from chemotherapy — older drugs with harsh side effects — in favor of gene-targeting therapies, hormone blockers and immune system treatments. When chemo is used now, it's sometimes for shorter periods or lower doses than it once was.

For example, another study at the confer-

ence found that Merck's immunotherapy drug Keytruda worked better than chemo as initial treatment for most people with the most common type of lung cancer and with far fewer side effects.

The breast cancer study focused on cases where chemo's value increasingly is in doubt: women with early stage cancer that has not spread to the lymph nodes, is hormone-positive (meaning its growth is fueled by estrogen or progesterone) and is not the type that the drug Herceptin targets.

The usual treatment is surgery followed by years of a hormone-blocking drug. But many women also are urged to have chemo to help kill any stray cancer cells. Doctors know that most don't need it, but evidence is thin on who can forgo it.

The study gave 10,273 patients a test called Oncotype DX, which uses a biopsy sample to measure the activity of genes involved in cell growth and response to hormone therapy, to estimate the risk that a cancer will recur.

About 17 percent of women had high-risk scores and were advised to have chemo. The 16 percent with low-risk scores now know they can skip chemo, based on earlier results from this study.

The new results are on the 67 percent of women at intermediate risk. All had surgery and hormone therapy, and half also got chemo. After nine years, 94 percent of both groups were still alive, and about 84 percent were alive without signs of cancer, so adding chemo made no difference.

Certain women 50 or younger did benefit from chemo; slightly fewer cases of cancer spreading far beyond the breast occurred among some of them given chemo, depending on their risk scores on the gene test.

Police say killings of psychiatrist, 2 paralegals in Phoenix are linked

By PAUL DAVENPORT
Associated Press

SCOTTSDALE, Ariz. — The shooting death of a prominent forensic psychiatrist who assisted in high-profile murder cases is connected to the killing of two paralegals, said authorities, who were investigating Saturday whether a fourth homicide also was related.

Police in the Phoenix suburb of Scottsdale said the killings Friday of paralegals Verelisa Sharp, 48, and Laura Anderson, 49, were related to the fatal shooting in Phoenix a day earlier of Dr. Steven Pitt.

Scottsdale police spokesman Sgt. Ben Hoster said investigators are trying to determine what linked the three victims.

"We don't know the relationships or the connections," he said.

Witnesses heard a loud argument and gunfire Thursday outside Pitt's office. Phoenix police are investigating the shooting and previously said they didn't know if the killing was related to Pitt's work.

Sharp and Anderson were shot Friday inside a law office. Police said one of the women managed to walk to an intersection to seek help despite a gunshot wound to her head. She was taken to a hospital, where she died. Officers followed a blood trail back to the office and found the other woman. She was pronounced dead at the scene.

In the other case, Scottsdale police received a call Saturday about a man found fatally shot inside an office. Hoster did not identify the caller but said the person knew the victim. The killing occurred in an office park that houses mostly therapists and counselors.



MIKE MORONES, THE (FREDERICKSBURG, VA.) FREE LANCE-STAR/AP

A tribute to the Lovings

Peggy Loving Fortune, left, daughter of Richard and Mildred Loving, and her grandson, Mark Loving II, center, along with Caroline County Board Chairman Nancy Long, read the new Loving highway marker at the intersection of Route 301 and Sparta Road in Caroline County, Va., on Saturday. The Supreme Court's 1967 ruling in *Loving v. Virginia* overturned laws prohibiting interracial marriage.

Investigation targets Oregon 'sanctuary state' repeal effort

By TOM JAMES
Associated Press

SALEM, Ore. — A conservative group is taking aim at the nation's oldest statewide sanctuary law, with a drive to repeal a 31-year-old Oregon mandate limiting police coordination on immigration arrests.

Critics say hate groups are funding the effort to abolish the law and allege that paid signature-gatherers deceived voters during a canvassing push earlier this year. State law enforcement authorities have opened at least one investigation into the signature-gatherers, and opponents have filed a complaint questioning whether the behavior was part of a coordinated effort to mislead voters. Representatives for the group behind the petition, the Repeal Oregon Sanctuary Law Committee, did not respond to calls or emails seeking comment.

The developments come as so-called sanctuary laws around the United States face increasing criticism from President Donald Trump's administration. Trump last month gathered officials opposed to a California sanctuary law at a Washington event, where he gained attention for referring to violent gang members who enter the country illegally as "animals."

Like California, Oregon has a sanctuary law that covers the entire state, the first of its kind and one of only a handful of similarly broad laws in the nation.

With help from anti-sanctuary groups, a trio of Republican state legislators from rural parts of the state sponsored an initiative to repeal Oregon's law.

The secretary of state's office confirmed

that nine complaints about alleged deceptive practices by initiative signature-gatherers have been forwarded to Oregon's Justice Department for criminal investigation. State elections staff also estimated about 40 people called seeking to have their signatures removed from the petition.

Many of the complaints date to late February, but Kristina Edmondson, the Justice Department's communications head, said the agency has since received a second round of complaints.

Portland resident Erin Whitlock was among those who complained.

Whitlock told The Associated Press she was approached on a commuter train by a canvasser who described the measure to passengers as extending protections for immigrants in the country illegally — which she knew to be the opposite of its actual effect.

"Everything felt a little fishy," said Whitlock, who added the canvasser would not show her a copy of the petition. Oregon canvassers are required to carry copies.

In another case, a video featured in media reports appeared to show a canvasser reacting with surprise when told the effect of the initiative.

Lee Vasche, owner of the signature-gathering company named in the complaint, said he hadn't heard of a complaint like Whitlock's but acknowledged complaints about misrepresentation in general.

Most were the fault of one signature-gatherer, Vasche said, adding that the company fired two other circulators and destroyed about 400 signatures.

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NATION

Bloody debut

Wyoming fans line up for state's 1st legal bare-knuckle fighting match

By ROB BLACK
Associated Press

CHEYENNE, Wyo. — The first state-sanctioned bare-knuckle boxing match got a bloody ending Saturday night — and a big response from a raucous crowd.

Arnold Adams, 32, an MMA heavyweight, pounded ex-UFC fighter D.J. Linderman's face into a bloody mess in front of 2,000 rowdy fans at a hockey rink that usually hosts birthday parties and skating lessons in Wyoming's capital. Tens of thousands more tuned in for the pay-per-view event, which featured 10 bouts, including four heavyweight fights in a tournament format.

Fans were lined up outside the Cheyenne Ice and Events Center more than an hour before the first major bare-knuckle event in the U.S. since 1889. Forrest Peters, from Cheyenne, was among those in attendance. He came to cheer Estevan Payan — who served in the same Army unit as Peters — and to witness history.

"With the bare-knuckle fighting and everything, having them bring it back for the first time in over 100 years, you know it's pretty exciting to see," Peters said, "and especially having it here in Cheyenne, kinda out here where the West is still a little wild."

Payan, of Tempe, Ariz., didn't disappoint, flooring Omar Avelar at 1:57 of the opening round of a 145-pound match.

The quickest knockout occurred when Sam Shewmaker used one punch, an overhand right, to send Eric Prindle to the canvas 18 seconds into their heavyweight bout.

"It felt like hitting a home run," said Shewmaker, a fourth-generation stone mason from the tiny central Missouri town of Gravois Mills. "I didn't think I would be able to catch him that early, but luckily I did."

Shewmaker has been an amateur boxer for years, and when he heard about the Wyoming event, he tried out and earned a chance to compete.

"I never dreamed that it would be legal to be able to do this," he said. "I've been in plenty of illegal bare-knuckle fights. I mean growing up where I did, in the area I did, it's kinda rough, but people

are gentlemen about it, too. You can fight, you get up, you're done, you shake hands and you go get a beer."

Bec Rawlings, 29, from Brisbane, Australia, won the only bout of the night featuring women, stopping Alma Garcia with a TKO in the second round.

Rawlings noticed little difference from fighting with gloves.

"It felt the same to get punched as in an MMA fight, which is what my background is," she said. "The difference was my knuckles more — when I punched her, I felt it a little bit more. Other than that, it was really nice just to let go and showcase my boxing skill and not worry about a takedown or a kick."

"It felt like the rawest form of combat sports to just go out there and throw your hands and let loose."

Tony Lopez lost the most entertaining fight of the night, a five-rounder against fellow Californian Joey Beltran. The crowd was on its feet and roaring as the two heavyweights traded punches and slugged it out to the end, with both men bruised, cut up and bloodied.

"The knuckles was nothing," Lopez, 44, said. "... I've always wanted to fight with no gloves. Got a chance to do it here."

Beltran and Shewmaker joined Rico Rodriguez and Maurice Jackson in the semifinals of the heavyweight division tournament, which will be held in September, also in Cheyenne.

Heralded underground bare-knuckle heavyweight Bobby Gunn also fought, knocking out Irineu Beato Costa Jr. in 41 seconds.

Cheyenne resident Bryan Pedersen, an MMA fighter and former state lawmaker, successfully sponsored a bill in 2012 to create a state board of mixed martial arts — the first state to do so. While MMA was thriving, bare-knuckle competition wasn't even considered when the law was passed. However, Wyoming jumped at



PHOTOS BY JACOB BYR, WYOMING TRIBUNE EAGLE/AP

Joey Beltran, right, fights Tony Lopez during the heavyweight main event during the Bare Knuckle Fighting Championship on Saturday in Cheyenne, Wyo. The night was promoted as the first sanctioned bare-knuckle fighting in the U.S. in more than a century.



Above: Reggie Barnett, left, fights Travis Thompson at 135 pounds. Left: Bec Rawlings, left, fights Alma Garcia in the only women's bout of the night.

the chance to host Bare Knuckle Fight Championships action after 28 other states passed.

The International Boxing Hall of Fame said the last significant bare-knuckle bout was July 8, 1889, when John L. Sullivan went 75 rounds to beat Jake Kilrain. Even that event was illegal and had to be staged under the cover of secrecy as most states had outlawed the nongloved version of boxing.

Fighting was forced underground until 2011, when the Yavapai Nation sanctioned a match that Gunn won over Richard Stewart at the tribe's reservation in Arizona. The bout drew more than 1 million viewers, and the promoter of that event and the Wyoming one, David Feldman, realized there was a hungry market for bare-knuckle fights within the combat sports fanbase. It took him another seven years to find a

state willing to sanction the next event.

Wyoming became the first state to sanction and regulate the activity sport after its commission reviewed research that indicated bare-knuckle boxing would be safer than other combat sports, especially when it comes to concussions, Pedersen said, adding that the commission, which he chairs, spent about a year developing the new rules governing the sport.

He also viewed Saturday's competition, and future bouts, as a way to generate economic diversity and promote the Cowboy State and its strong sense of Western independence.

The International Boxing Hall of Fame said the last significant bare-knuckle bout was July 8, 1889, when John L. Sullivan went 75 rounds to beat Jake Kilrain.

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NATION

Descendants of Mormon islanders pay yearly tribute

Associated Press

SKULL VALLEY, Utah — A Utah ghost town founded more than 100 years ago by Pacific Islanders who converted to the Mormon church is still visited every year by descendants who celebrate and decorate their ancestors' gravesites.

Deborah Hoopiaina's family helped found the town named Iosepha in Tooele County east of Salt Lake City, The Salt Lake Tribune reported.

The converts had come to Utah to help The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints build a temple in Salt Lake City.

After the temple was completed, church leaders sent them east to start their own outpost.

Iosepha was founded in 1893. Hoopiaina's grandparents later moved to Iosepha, and her uncle, Conie, was born there. Her uncle would be buried there in 1968, and his grave still remains.

"This is my uncle," she said during a recent visit to the town, kissing her hand and touching it to the grave marker. "He was born here."

By 1917, many of the settlers had left the town. A majority returned to Hawaii.

Some speculated that they were forced out of Utah by the Mormon church. Others said they were homesick.



TRENT NELSON, THE SALT LAKE TRIBUNE/AP

Lina Ahquin puts a lei on a historical monument as Hawaiians descendants gather to clean the graves of their ancestors on Memorial Day in Iosepha, Utah.

Author Wallace Stegner wrote in his book "Mormon Country" that the settlers had "made a heroic effort" but "never were a part of the society that tried half-heartedly to assimilate them."

"We were written off the map," said Hoopiaina's cousin Nick, who is the president of the Iosepha Historical Association.

Today the only evidence of their lives is a road and the cemetery.

But for every year on Memorial Day, the descendants of the founders return to breathe life into the Utah desert ghost town.

About 50 people came out in late May and cleaned up the cemetery. Many of them still share the last names of the founding families: Halemanu, Makaiua, Imaikalani, Kekuku,

Hoopiaina.

They honor their ancestors by decorating their gravesites and celebrate with a luau, a roasted pig, singing, dancing and games.

"We're all related," said Pat Kamai, 57. He and his daughter Lina Ahquin, decorated a warrior statue that watches over the site with flower lei.

Ian Hao has attended the annual gathering since he was 8, but this year is different since his father was buried there recently.

"It means a little something extra now," he said, pointing to the headstone as he cleared an unmarked grave.

He brought along his daughter, who is also 8.

"They're all my family," she said.

5 deaths are now linked to lettuce E.coli

Associated Press

NEW YORK — Four more deaths have been linked to a national food poisoning outbreak blamed on tainted lettuce, bringing the total to five.

Health officials have tied the E. coli outbreak to romaine lettuce grown in Yuma, Ariz. The growing season there ended six weeks ago, and it's unlikely any tainted lettuce is still in stores or people's homes, given its short shelf life. But there can be a lag in reporting, and reports of illnesses have continued to come in.

In an update Friday on the nation's largest E. coli outbreak in a decade, health officials said 25 more cases have been added, raising the total number of illnesses to 197 in 35 states. At least 89 people were hospitalized.

Previously, one death had been reported, in California. On Friday, health officials said they had learned of four more — one in Arkansas, one in New York, and two in Minnesota.

The first illnesses occurred in March, and the most recent began on May 12, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

Many of the new cases were people who became ill two to three weeks ago, when contaminated lettuce was still being sold. Some said they did not eat romaine lettuce but were in close contact with someone who got sick after eating it.

Leonard the cat is protest candidate for mayor of Bend

By JULIA SHUMWAY
The (Bend, Ore.) Bulletin

BEND, Ore. — One Bend resident set on becoming the city's first elected mayor has an ambitious policy platform: eliminating cars, stopping all new construction and enforcing strong leash laws.

He's a newcomer to the political scene, but he's well-known in some circles of town through his work with small businesses. He's also a lifelong Bend resident who started his political career out of frustration with city policies.

And one more thing: He's a cat.

Leonardo F. Bend, 51½, "works" as a greeter at Bright Place Gallery, which has become a de facto campaign headquarters replete with buttons and other swag for his supporters. The gallery's owners, Stuart Breidenstein and Abby Dubief, speak for him while he lounges nearby wearing a red bow tie.

Of course, they know Leonardo can't officially run for mayor. Their efforts are part political commentary, part publicity stunt, part fundraising — they want to raise money for animal welfare organizations.

Their cat, who goes by Leon-

ard, is a quiet but imposing presence at 26 pounds.

"It doesn't offend him when people call him a fat cat politician," Breidenstein said. "Politician, yes, but not fat cat."

Dubief and Breidenstein persuaded Leonard to run for office because they — or was it he? — were unsatisfied with local government. In this case, the city of Bend's sign code.

Bright Place Gallery, along with many other businesses, had to take down temporary signs because they violated city law.

While reading about that city law, Dubief and Breidenstein found a loophole: Bend allows campaign signs up to 16 square feet in nonresidential areas.

"We figured that if Leonard ran for mayor we could have a big sign for his campaign and draw people to the gallery," Dubief said. "Leonard's reason is that the humans have made a mockery of the political process."

Leonard has been employed full-time as the greeter at Bright Place Gallery, where customers regularly stop to pet him, since it opened in March of 2017. Before then, he was a mouser at the Workhouse on Scott Street and a greeter at the Old Ironworks Arts District.



RYAN BRENNKECKE, THE (BEND, ORE.) BULLETIN/AP

Leonardo F. Bend gets a scratch behind the ear by a supporter on May 27 during his campaign fundraiser to run for mayor at Bright Place Gallery in Bend, Ore., where he "works" as a greeter.

"His experience with small business, that will really help him out," Dubief said.

If elected, Leonard would not be the first feline mayor in the U.S. That distinction belongs to Stubbs, a yellow cat who served as mayor of the historic district of Talkeetna, Alaska, from July 1997 until his death in July.

He joins Angus F. Woolley, a 3-year-old Vizsla from Hutchinson, Kan., as prospective nonhu-

man candidates in 2018. Angus attempted to run for governor of Kansas, a state with requirements for filing so lax that at least six teenagers and the arts editor of the Eugene Weekly in Oregon filed to run for governor, but Kansas Secretary of State Kris Kobach — who's also running for governor — drew the line at a dog on the ballot.

Leonard, too, won't be able to run for office, Bend City Re-

corder Robyn Christie said. The city requires that candidates for City Council seats be registered Oregon voters who have lived in Bend for the past year, and only humans who are at least 18 years old can register to vote.

Leonard will demand to see the laws preventing him from running to make sure they weren't adapted after his campaign started (they've been in the city's charter, a governing document that functions as the city's constitution, since at least 1995), according to Dubief and Breidenstein. If he can't run officially, he plans to organize a write-in campaign.

The cat kicked his campaign off with a fundraising brunch with about 30 attendees. He plans to have at least one more fundraiser before November, with proceeds from the fundraisers and sales of Leonard merchandise donated to animal-themed organizations, including the Bend Spay & Neuter Project and the Humane Society.

Leonard and his campaign managers are also prepared for negative campaigning, Dubief said. He has a birth certificate and siblings — Sheldon, Raj and Penny — who can vouch for his Bend residency, and he's prepared to dispute any allegations of biting.

WORLD

New Italian government vows to expel migrants

By NICOLE WINFIELD
Associated Press

ROME — Italy's new populist leaders commemorated the founding of the Italian republic by attending a pomp-filled military parade Saturday — and then promised to get to work expelling migrants and creating jobs.

"The free ride is over," new Interior Minister Matteo Salvini warned migrants at a rally in northern Italy. "It's time to pack your bags."

The pledge of mass deportations to come was a reminder that Italy has a staunchly anti-immigrant, right-wing party in its governing coalition — and that the European Union has a new partner governing its fourth-largest economy and a country on the front lines of migration into Europe.

Earlier, Salvini joined Premier Giuseppe

'The free ride is over. It's time to pack your bags.'

Matteo Salvini
Italy's interior minister

Conte and the rest of the newly sworn-in Cabinet to view the Republic Day parade. Italy's aeronautic acrobatic squad flew low and loud over downtown Rome, trailing smoke in the red, white and green of the Italian flag.

The national pride on display is a feature of every Republic Day, but it took on a particular significance this year after Italy on Friday ended three months of political and financial turmoil and swore in a government whose populist and euro-skeptic leanings have alarmed Europe.

Conte, a law professor plucked from rela-

tive obscurity to head an unlikely governing alliance of the anti-establishment 5-Star Movement and the right-wing League party, said the celebrations Saturday transcended all the tensions of recent days.

"It's the celebration for all of us, of our republic," he said.

Conte's Cabinet was sworn in after a last-minute deal averted the threat of a new election that could have turned into a referendum on whether Italy stayed with the shared European euro currency. The political stability relieved financial markets on Friday, but Italy's European neighbors con-

tinued to express concerns about the euro-skeptic bent and the heavy spending agenda of Italy's new government.

"Italy is destroying itself — and dragging down Europe with it," read the headline of Germany's Der Spiegel magazine, the cover of which featured a forkful of spaghetti with one dangling strand tied up as a noose.

While Der Spiegel is known for such provocations, another recent article it published drew an official protest from Italy's ambassador to Germany.

On Saturday, German Chancellor Angela Merkel phoned Conte and invited him to visit soon. Merkel's office said both leaders emphasized the importance of continued close bilateral cooperation.

Conte has so far left policy specifics to the drivers of his improbable rise, his two deputies: Salvini, of the League, and 5-Star leader Luigi Di Maio.

Biographer: Duterte driven by animosity toward US

By ROD MCGUIRK
Associated Press

CANBERRA, Australia — The author of the first biography of Rodrigo Duterte said the maverick Philippine president was gravitating toward China partly because of a personal animosity toward the United States and its criticisms of his human rights record.

Jonathan Miller, Asia correspondent for Britain's Channel 4 News, spent more than a year interviewing Duterte's family, Cabinet members, supporters and critics to compile a biography

largely in the words of Filipinos. It's called "Duterte Harry," a nickname Duterte earned during 22 years as the gun-toting mayor of southern Davao city. It's also a play on the Clint Eastwood movie "Dirty Harry."

The British journalist said Duterte would like the Philippines to be part of a new sphere that included China and Russia and abandon the old alliances, including with the United States, the country's former colonial power.

China's greatest appeal to the Philippine leader, 72, for a re-

aligned relationship was money, Miller said.

"The Chinese have actually promised a lot of investment, and although Duterte in the past has not been known for his infrastructure work, there are few countries in Southeast Asia that are in more need of investment and infrastructure than the Philippines. They need rail and road transport desperately," Miller told The Associated Press in Canberra during a book signing.

"He's looking for a lot of Chinese money in that, but he's also doing it to punish the U.S. and he's got a

personal chip on his shoulder over the United States, which has criticized him for his human rights abuses," Miller said. "He values China because they don't criticize his human rights stuff."

Many Filipinos are unsettled by Duterte moving away from the United States and closer to China, which aggressively contests the Philippines' territorial claims in the South China Sea.

"The move toward China alarms a lot of Filipinos who love America more than any other country in the world," Miller said.

Duterte's gripes with the United

States include being refused a visa, apparently because of State Department alarm at death squads that operated in Davao when he was mayor, Miller said.

The International Criminal Court is conducting a preliminary probe into extrajudicial killings during Duterte's signature war-on-drugs policy despite the president withdrawing his country from the court's jurisdiction.

A Filipino lawyer has complained that the anti-drugs campaign could amount to crimes against humanity.



OLIVER BERG, DPA/AP

Water covers much of Eifel Zoo in Luenebach, Germany, on Friday.

Drone is deployed to help locate missing animals after zoo flood

MARCUS KLOECKNER
Stars and Stripes

Two lions, two tigers and a jaguar that were originally believed to have escaped from a zoo about 25 miles north of Spangdahlem Air Base, Germany, were hidden from sight because of flooding Friday and never left the zoo grounds, officials said.

The only animal that broke free of its enclosure at the Eifel Zoo in Luenebach was a bear, which was shot on the grounds, said Marc Poetzsch, of the Eifel area's disaster response agency.

Poetzsch said authorities believed the animals escaped because they couldn't be seen after

their enclosure was flooded in the wake of heavy rains Friday.

"Later, when the weather was better, we were able to see with the drone that the animals were still there," he said.

Spangdahlem Air Base officials sent out an email alerting the base community of news that the animals had escaped, said Capt. Andrea Valencia, a base spokeswoman. Officials also posted an advisory on the base's Facebook page.

Eifel is home to about 60 exotic and local animal species, the zoo's website says. It keeps about 400 animals, including a Siberian tiger.

kloeckner.marcus@stripes.com

Party leader: Nazi era 'a speck of bird poop' in German history

By KARIN LAUB
Associated Press

BERLIN — The co-leader of the far-right nationalist Alternative for Germany party on Saturday dismissed the Nazi era as "a speck of bird poop" in German history, drawing swift condemnation from mainstream politicians and outrage on social media.

Alexander Gauland said Germans must take responsibility for 12 years of rule by Adolf Hitler and his Nazi party, but argued that it's only a small part of Germany's history.

"We have a glorious history and it, dear friends, lasted longer than that blasted 12 years," he told a gathering of the party's youth movement, according to the dpa news agency. "Hitler and the Nazis are just a speck of bird poop in more than 1,000 years of successful German history," he said to applause.

The party, known by its German acronym AfD, became the third-largest in Germany's parliament after the 2017 election. It is also the largest opposition party.

Responding to Gauland, the secretary-general of Chancellor Angela Merkel's Christian Dem-

ocratic Party, wrote on Twitter that "50 million victims of war, the Holocaust and total war are just bird poop" for Gauland and his party.

Annett Kramp-Karrenbauer said Gauland's comments reveal the true nature of a party hiding behind middle-class respectability.

Katrin Gg-Eckardt, of the Greens party, called Gauland's comments a slap in the face to Holocaust survivors and their descendants and said they highlight the need to push back against a hate-filled minority.

"Those who say they understand the concerns of AfD voters haven't understood anything," she said.

Marcus Buschmann, of the Free Democratic Party, said politicians who systematically play down the Nazi dictatorship and the Holocaust show how bleak their vision for Germany's future is.

Hitler and his party ruled Germany from 1933 to 1945, in the later years engineering the genocide of Jews in Europe.

Millions of people were persecuted or perished under Nazi rule, including 6 million Jews who lost their lives in the Holocaust.

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AMERICAN ROUNDUP

Divers are sought to retrieve golf balls

ID COEUR D'ALENE — A northern Idaho golf course estimates that some 30,000 golf balls have accumulated on a lake bed over the last several years near a floating green that is an elusive target for many golfers.

Coeur d'Alene Resort officials told KREM-TV that the resort hasn't been able to come to terms with local divers to retrieve the balls in Lake Coeur d'Alene. Divers pay to collect the balls and then sell them.

The 14th hole is a par 3 with a floating green that can be moved on cables. From standard tees, the hole is about 150 yards long.

Museum displays rare Civil War flag

WI GREEN BAY — A 157-year-old flag from the Civil War is on display at a Green Bay museum.

The flag with a "Great Star" pattern was hand-sewn by a Green Bay woman and is on display at the Neville Public Museum, Wisconsin Public Radio reported. The flag is part of the "Our Brown County" display.

It's believed to have flown for a rally at the beginning of the Civil War and to have been displayed over what was Fort Howard in Wisconsin until about 1865.

The museum acquired the flag in 1934, museum curator Lisa Kain said. It was recently rediscovered in the museum's archive, which has more than 300,000 physical items.

2 of 4 peacocks that escaped zoo found safe

PA PHILADELPHIA — Two of the four peacocks that escaped from the Philadelphia Zoo last week and took a stroll on a nearby highway have been found safe, a day after another was found dead on that stretch of road.

Zoo officials said a passer-by spotted the two peacocks Friday morning near an equestrian center. The tipster stayed with them until zoo workers arrived to rescue the birds. They described them as "healthy if a little hungry."

The fourth peacock remains on the loose.

Plane makes emergency landing on city street

CA HUNTINGTON BEACH — A pilot is being praised for setting down a small plane on a Southern California street while avoiding power lines and traffic. Police told City News Service that the pilot reported engine problems Friday while heading for John Wayne Airport in Santa Ana.

She landed the Cessna 172 about 5 miles from the airport in a Huntington Beach residential neighborhood.

Nobody was hurt and the plane was undamaged.

THE CENSUS

\$10K

The amount Vermont will pay new residents who work remotely for an out-of-state employer, in an effort to attract younger people. The Remote Worker Grant Program, signed into law by Gov. Phil Scott, would cover moving expenses and other costs. It takes effect Jan. 1, 2019. The law defines a qualifying worker as working primarily from a Vermont home office or co-working space and employed full-time by an out-of-state based company. The state would award grants on a first-come, first-served basis.



ALLAN CAMPBELL, ROCKY MOUNT (N.C.) TELEGRAM/AP

Flipping out

Baskerville Elementary School fourth-grader Na'Ziyah Williams, 10, center, reacts after flipping her pancake Friday as classmate Sha'Zarian Dancy, 9, right, watches with Nash Community College chef instructor Frank Bookhardt as they make whole wheat pancakes in the NCC Mobile Culinary Lab at the school in Rocky Mount, N.C.

Court upholds decision on custody of dog

NE OMAHA — The Nebraska Supreme Court routinely weighs in on custody cases — but not very often on battles over who gets the dog. On Friday, the state's high court upheld a decision to grant custody of a French bulldog named Princess Pot Roast to an Omaha man locked out of a home he had shared with his boyfriend for five years.

A judge last year ruled the dog, nicknamed Pavlov, was a gift from Jason Pratte to Peter Zelenka before the couple broke up in 2015. Pratte said he never intended the dog as a gift and appealed.

Woman run over, killed after falling out of car

GA ATHENS — Police said a Georgia woman died after she fell out of her moving car and was run over by another vehicle.

The Athens Banner-Herald reported Quistilla Wilson, 23, was killed Thursday while driving on the city's perimeter highway. Athens-Clarke County police said Wilson fell from her car after it suddenly veered across a lane of traffic.

Police said Wilson's car left the roadway, struck a guardrail and then re-entered the road where it ran into a minivan, which then ran over Wilson. She was pronounced dead at a local hospital.

Potato farm closing after 90 years

VT GUILDHALL — A potato farm and longtime symbol of Vermont's agricultural past has announced plans to auction off its equipment and close.

Peaslee's Vermont Potatoes will close after 90 years in business. The Caledonian Record reported. The Northeast Kingdom potato farm has been run by the Peaslee family for decades.

Co-owner Karen Guile-Caron said the next generation of the

family does not want to operate the farm.

Guile-Caron's mother, Janice Peaslee, served as a Republican representative for Essex and Caledonia counties in the Vermont House from 1989 to 2013.

The family is selling the 64-acre property, which includes a farm house and potato barn, and equipment on Friday.

New fisherman statue is placed at museum

MS BILOXI — A statue saluting the Mississippi Gulf Coast's fishing industry has returned.

The 7-foot-tall bronze sculpture was unveiled Thursday at the Maritime and Seafood Industry Museum in Biloxi.

The Italian bronze figure replaces the original 15-foot-tall golden fisherman monument. It was damaged by Hurricane Katrina in 2005 and then stolen, dismantled and partially recovered.

The new statue is smaller and looks different but still features

a man casting his net toward the water.

It stands on a granite base with plaques naming more than 800 seafood industry families.

Emu that fled captivity returned to sanctuary

ME LIBSON — A 19-year-old emu known as "The Bird" that got loose in a Maine town has been returned to its animal sanctuary.

Libson police, an animal control officer and much of the town searched throughout the day Thursday for the 5-foot-4-inch emu that escaped from the local sanctuary. A spokeswoman for the sanctuary said the bird was captured near a neighbor's house and it was then returned to its home.

The Bangor Daily News reported someone caring for The Bird was moving it to its summer residence when it bolted.

From wire reports

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Lt. Col. Richard McClintic, Pacific commander
Harry Eley, Europe Business Operations

EDITORIAL

Terry Leonard, Editor
leonard.terry@stripes.com
Robert H. Reid, Senior Managing Editor
robert@stripes.com
Tina Croley, Managing Editor for Content
croley.tina@stripes.com
Sean Moores, Managing Editor for Presentation
moores.sean@stripes.com
Joe Gromelski, Managing Editor for Digital
gromelski.joe@stripes.com

BUREAU STAFF

Europe/Mideast
Erik Slavin, Europe & Mideast Bureau Chief
slavin.erik@stripes.com
+49(0)631.3615.9350, DSN (314)583.9350
Pacific
Aaron Kidd, Pacific Bureau Chief
kidd.aaron@stripes.com
+81.422.552.211 ext. 88380, DSN (315)227.7380
Washington
Joseph Cacioli, Washington Bureau Chief
cacioli.joseph@stripes.com
(+1)202(761.0908, DSN (312)763.0908
Brian Bowers, Assistant Managing Editor, News
bowers.brian@stripes.com

CIRCULATION

Mideast
Robert Reismann, reismann.robert@stripes.com
+49(0)631.3615.9150, DSN (314)583.9150
Europe
Van Rowell, rowell.van@stripes.com
+49(0)631.3615.9111, DSN (314)583.9111
Pacific
Mari Mori, customerhelp@stripes.com
+81-3 6385.3711, DSN (315)229.3171

CONTACT US

Washington
tel. (+1)202-761.0900, DSN (312)763.0900;
529 14th Street NW, Suite 350, Washington, DC
20045-1301

Reader letters
letters@stripes.com

Additional contacts
stripes.com/contacts

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OPINION

DOD official advances plan to merge stores

By Tom Philpott
Special to Stars and Stripes

Deputy Defense Secretary Patrick M. Shanahan has directed that a task force be formed by July 1 to develop a business case for consolidating the military's three separate exchange services and the Defense Commissary Agency into a single resale enterprise to oversee and streamline all on-base store operations.

In a May 29 memorandum to the department's chief management officer, John H. Gibson II, as well as to the service secretaries, the chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff and other top defense executives, Shanahan said he recognizes the planned merger can't happen without the approval of Congress.

"The Department will pursue such authority as soon as practicable," Shanahan wrote. Meanwhile, he wants Gibson to assemble a "cross-functional task force ... to perform financial due diligence, a business case analysis and begin planning for the consolidation of the defense resale enterprise."

Gibson is to name a task force director

By Tom Philpott
Special to Stars and Stripes

The biggest problem with commissaries, and perhaps a major reason why sales are falling, "is product availability," wrote "Olson, wife of a retired Air Force officer who shops on Maxwell Air Force Base, Ala. "There seems to be a total lack of concern on the part of the commissary management to keep shelves stocked."

Many commissary patrons echoed this complaint in reacting to our recent news column on base stores, and it's not news to the interim director of the Defense Commissary Agency, retired Navy Rear Adm. Robert Bianchi.

In an interview, Bianchi said he is committed to reforming over the next year how commissary shelves are stocked.

"The main message I would hope you can get across to [shoppers] is, 'Hey, I get it. I know there are problems and I'm trying to attack them,'" said Bianchi.

He isn't sure himself how widespread is the problem of empty shelves across the commissary system. Bianchi says it is a problem, reflected both in patron satisfaction surveys and in direct feedback from shoppers Bianchi heard during visits to 15 stores since becoming interim DeCA director last November. (He also remains chief executive officer of the Navy Exchange Service Command.)

"The only place you can sell air is at a gas station," Bianchi quipped. "If it's not on the shelf, we can't sell it and, of course, that leads to patron dissatisfaction."

An American Customer Satisfaction Index survey of commissary patrons conducted last year found the issue they most recently complained about. Freshness and quality of produce was number one; Bianchi said that, too, is an issue he's addressing. But product availability, or empty shelves, was the second most frequent complaint, cited by 17 percent of respondents, he said.

Unlike retail grocers, commissaries aren't staffed to stock shelves. For about half of all products sold, managers sign "commercial activities" contracts with firms that provide stockers. Because performance is monitored, those contracts generally work well, Bianchi said.

Complaints about empty shelves are tied to a separate, unconventional arrangement

MILITARY UPDATE

by June 15.

Shanahan noted that military resale has been studied "repeatedly since 1990 with little or no implementation of recommendations for change." Consequently, on-base stores are "experiencing many of the same industry, generational and demographic trends negatively impacting private-sector grocers and retailers."

Some exchange service executives have argued against consolidation.

"I considered the respective views and responses of the Military Departments on this approach," Shanahan said, and he decided "a single consolidated organization offers the greatest potential to achieve the economies and efficiencies necessary for the survivability of the defense resale enterprise and the continued availability of these benefits to our Total Force, their families and other authorized patrons."

Whether Congress grants the department authority to consolidate resale operations, Shanahan also wants the task force to "begin standardizing and optimizing" at

least all store systems and processes, "beginning with supply chain and procurement as soon as practicable."

To sharpen focus on these efforts, Shanahan said, he is ordering a freeze, effective immediately, on resale executive hiring and on acquisition of new information technology to support store operations. In a nod to service concerns, the deputy secretary said task force plans for consolidation should consider "retaining service unique identities on the front end of resale activities."

Once complete, Shanahan said, if the business case doesn't persuade Gibson on the merits of consolidation, "the task force will be disestablished immediately and the reform initiative closed."

"The Department should make it clear to all," he closed, "that our intentions are to make [base] services better for our members and their families, to improve our support to commanders, to be exceptional stewards of our appropriated funds, and to exhibit fiduciary responsibility of our non-appropriated funds."

Send comments to Military Update, P.O. Box 231111, Centerville, VA, 20126; email milupdate@aol.com; Twitter: @Military_Update.

DECA chief hears you on restocking shelves

for stocking brand-name goods. Vendors for national brands are responsible for putting products on shelves. They, in turn, use third-party companies that hire stockers to work after hours solely on these products.

DeCA has allowed this arrangement for decades despite obvious weaknesses in including lack of management control over the performance of these workers. Firms that supply vendor stockers don't supervise them, Bianchi said. The big ones are Top Gun and Prime Team, and mostly they ensure that stockers are paid.

If stockers don't show up, product isn't put on shelves. If they show but can't access products — for example, if pallets of other goods are in the way — some leave without stocking that product, Bianchi said.

"If you're scratching your head a little bit now, I don't blame you," he said. "When I first came on to this whole thing, it kind of hurt my head. It's so different from what we do on my NEXCOM side where the store team is the team, and you say, 'Sally or Johnny needs to go grab stuff out of the back room' and they do it."

There are situations where people have said, "I'm not going to move all that stuff out of the way to get to my stuff." I know it seems kind of hard to believe but these are episodes ... related to me by my store leadership," Bianchi said.

He added, "I don't want to malign all of them because we have some stores where changeover is working and the relationship is very good."

Some vendor stockers are even military spouses or servicemembers who elect to work part time to earn extra income. But Bianchi has concluded that vendor stocking is unreliable and an "unsustainable model" for keeping shelves full.

Managers and patrons are starting to feel frustrated, Bianchi said. "And frankly, because we're paying for this service in the cost of goods being charged in our negotiations with manufacturers, I'm not getting my money's worth."

Bianchi said he doesn't know the full history of the contract over time.

"All I know is, right now, I've got patrons in certain places telling me they're dissatisfied. I have store leadership telling me they have issues. And I want to make things better. I'm looking at positive alternatives."

One alternative he began testing May 14 at the Little Creek Commissary on Naval Air Station Base Little Creek, Va., is to hire exchange

employees to stock brand-name goods. He also directed affected vendors to tally what costs they had been passing on for stocking services and lower brand product prices accordingly. This setup won't trigger more savings for shoppers, the commissary said, but it will help pay exchange workers stocking shelves. But shoppers will see fuller shelves, Bianchi said.

Some exchange workers will begin to restock the Little Creek commissary during the day, rather than only when stores are closed or when managers are pressed to clear what needs to get onto the floor as opposed to seeing stockers looking for particular products they alone can handle.

Companies involved in vendor stocking obviously are concerned by the Little Creek pilot, Bianchi said. If they propose a better model, he'll consider it.

Managers of other commissaries are also concerned by the Little Creek pilot. But when it is not there, stores lose sales and shoppers get upset. They'd be more upset to know that, "more than likely, there is probably product in the back and just nobody there to bring it forward. And that's very disturbing," Bianchi said.

Bianchi isn't ruling out other solutions, including hiring more commissary staff. At most commissaries, employees are represented by unions. Bianchi said he is asking the unions to agree to add shelf stocking to the type of work clerks can do. That is to give managers greater flexibility to set work schedules if he deems it to be would be cost-efficient to hire more store employees to stock shelves.

Bianchi said his strategy to end the empty shelf problem is "crawl, walk, run," so that when he's confident he has the right solution, or combination of solutions, he'll roll it out across the entire system. In that regard, Bianchi acknowledged he is in talks with senior Department of Defense officials to lengthen his tour as interim DeCA director beyond June.

"I'm committed to hanging in there because I believe in these benefits and I think we're making important progress," Bianchi said.

OPINION

US should move forces in Germany to Poland

By LEONID BERSHIDSKY

Bloomberg Opinion

Poland is willing to spend \$1.5 billion to \$2 billion to entice the U.S. to build a permanent military base there, according to a Defense Ministry proposal. The plan offers a strong incentive for the U.S. to consider moving at least some of its forces from Germany, especially since the current deployment makes little sense.

Placing U.S. bases in Germany after World War II was a response to the need to deter a Soviet attack and prevent Germany from becoming a military threat again. The second goal appears to be irrelevant today. Higher military spending is unpopular with German voters, and the government is unwilling to raise its defense budget to the 2 percent of economic output required by NATO. The proposed spending level for next year is 1.3 percent.

In addition, the theoretical front line in a conflict between Russia and NATO is longer than through Germany, which today is buffered from Russia by a number of countries, including the Baltic states and Poland. Germans feel safe, and they're among the least inclined to defend a NATO ally against a Russian attack.

In a 2016 analysis of a possible Russian attack on the Baltics, Rand Corp.'s David

Shlapak and Michael Johnson explained that the new front line is about the same length as the Cold War-era West German border, but it's defended only by Baltic and Polish forces, along with a small number of temporarily deployed NATO troops. If the Kremlin decides to overrun the Baltics and present NATO with a fait accompli, it's likely to be able to do so before, for example, U.S. heavy armor could arrive from, say, Grafenwoehr, not far from Germany's border with the Czech Republic.

The numbers of U.S. soldiers in Germany had shrunk to 35,000 last year from almost 250,000 in 1985, but maintaining that presence is costly for Germany. It has required 521 million euros, or about \$607 million, in direct budgetary expenses alone since 2008. That's only a fraction of the total cost, for example, in 2009 the direct German defense budget expenditure linked to the U.S. bases reached only \$164.9 million, but Rand calculated the total—including construction costs, leases and benefits to former employees of the bases—“at \$697.8 million in 1985, but maintaining that economic benefits of the bases around the bases, but Germany today faces a severe housing shortage, and the bases could be turned into residential real estate.

Deploying U.S. troops in Poland would serve a strategic purpose. The Defense Ministry argues that it would help NATO defend the Suwalki Gap, the narrow, highly

vulnerable piece of land between the Russian exclave of Kaliningrad and the Belarus border where Poland and Lithuania abut each other.

U.S. military bases in other countries aren't particularly useful today. Any major conflict in Europe or the Middle East would still require the deployment of troops from the U.S., which would be almost as fast as from the German bases. But some U.S. allies, including Poland and the Baltic states, really want the American presence to provide a sense of security. Those countries are happy to take on extra costs. Poland and Estonia already spend more than 2 percent of economic output on defense, and Latvia and Lithuania are closer to Russia than Germany. None of those countries is likely to do anything to put the U.S. at risk of entanglement. They certainly won't attack Russia first or even provoke it, since with or without U.S. troops a conflict would devastate them.

There are arguments against the move, too. Russia doesn't have anything to gain by invading the Baltic states or Poland. Any conceivable benefits of trying to take over resource-poor nations with a mostly hostile population pale before the risk of a full-blown conflict with NATO, even if the alliance's engagement is not 100 percent assured. And the Kremlin would object loudly to the transfer of U.S. bases from Germany to Poland, decrying it as another violation

of Western promises not to expand NATO to Russia's borders.

There's nothing, however, that Russia could do in response. It has already accepted temporary NATO deployments to the Baltics and Poland. So the U.S. doesn't stand to lose anything by accepting Poland's generous proposal and gradually relocating troops there from Germany. A move of that kind would be consistent with stated U.S. goals, such as deterring Russia. It would also allow the U.S. to support an ally eager for closer military ties.

It might also force Germany to give more thought to its position. Would it feel unprotected with a smaller U.S. presence? Would it, perhaps, be motivated to enhance its own defense? Or would it still be secure in its apparent conviction that no one is interested in attacking it?

The U.S. should offer protection to the countries that want it most and reduce its involvement with nations that benefited in the mid-20th century. The American military presence should be aligned with its allies' sense of being threatened. That anxiety gets stronger the closer a country is to Russia's borders. Ignoring that makes little military or political sense.

Leonid Bershidsky is a Bloomberg Opinion columnist covering European politics and business. He was the founding editor of the Russian business daily *Vedomosti* and founded the opinion website *Silon.ru*.

‘Solo’ gets one thing right: Droids are basically slaves

By DAN HASSLER-FOREST

Special To The Washington Post

The new film “Solo: A Star Wars Story” is mostly a listless, tone-deaf bore, tediously trekking through a deeply unimaginative backstory for a character who was always at his best when he was at his most mysterious. His first appearance in the Mos Eisley cantina told us everything we need to know about this guy: He's slick, he's cool, he's competent, he's a little shady, he's hot as hell and he definitely isn't afraid to shoot first. No one needed to know how he got his iconic blaster, let alone how he ended up with his last name.

Amid its feeble collection of corporate fan fiction, however, the film does inadvertently open up one truly fascinating can of worms, acknowledging something that has been an open secret in the franchise for four decades: Every droid in the “Star Wars” universe is basically a slave. It has been true since the first film, in which supposed good guy Luke Skywalker casually installs “restraining bolts” on C-3PO and R2-D2, essentially sentencing independent beings who receive no compensation for their services—to keep them from running away after he buys them in a public auction.

Even weirder is the first prequel movie's conceit that Anakin Skywalker, himself a child slave, built C-3PO, again without a star. Kurosawa's story, confining his antagonist to its own (eternal) life of servitude. It all seems so obvious in retrospect, and yet the master-servant relationship between organic and artificial life in the “Star Wars” franchise has been largely ignored until now.

As droids have mostly provided comic relief amid the films' action set pieces, their obvious-seeming connection to real-world histories of slavery and racial subjugation never played a role of any significance in the franchise's political organization—much as the peasants in Agra Kurosawa's “Seven Years in Tibet” and Lucas' original droids were based, never

questioned or challenged the class politics of medieval Japan. We know that droids in the “Star Wars” universe can be bought, sold, disassembled and tortured without consequences, and without it bothering the audience very much. For while we do perceive them in roughly the same way as the franchise's carbon-based characters, with personalities, emotions, quirks, flaws, genders and even sexual identities and desires, they clearly make up a separate class of creatures. And since they clearly learn and develop across the “Star Wars” chronology, their consciousness can't be reduced to preprogrammed personalities.

But their constructed bodies create a structural ambivalence that allows them to take on contradictory roles simultaneously. Because their bodies are mechanical, we can perceive them as things that have no rights and that are, therefore, disposable; but at the same time, because their anthropomorphic personalities can be so recognizable human, we can still appreciate them in the same way that we do non-droid characters. With rather painful irony, this very double consciousness has been essential to our understanding of Western colonial American slavery and racial subjugation. It is what has allowed those in power to treat people of color both as things and as people—whichever is most convenient in a given context.

This intentional slippage of droid identity facilitates the fact that the most prominent robots perform roles that are deeply familiar to us. Undersized automata like R2-D2 and BB-8 operate like unusually intelligent pets, while the more humanoid C-3PO unsubtly repurposes the pop-cultural archetype of the English butler—fussy, easily offended and devoted to a life of servitude. We find a hint of place in a space-based reimagining of “Downton Abbey.” And since we see our beloved human heroes treat them with affection and the droids never complain, droid politics has never been much of an issue for “Star Wars” fans.

But in the new movie, a new character and her minor subplot put the question of



Courtesy of Lucasfilm Ltd.

Donald Glover is Lando Calrissian, right, and Phoebe Waller-Bridge is L3-37 in “Solo: A Star Wars Story.”

robot rights front and center. In this story, the droid character L3-37 is introduced as Lando Calrissian's belligerent and fiercely opinionated assistant and navigator. Energetically voiced by English comedian Phoebe Waller-Bridge, L3-37 isn't just the first major “Star Wars” droid to be voiced by a woman; she has also been described as the franchise's “first woke bot.” Arriving at the Kessel Mines for one of the movie's many tedious heist sequences, the irascible droid discovers that the mining operation is chiefly operated by a crew of robotic slaves—mechanical workers who have been fitted with those familiar restraining bolts, which effectively function as chains.

There is, therefore, something exciting and even a little radical about seeing L3-37 running around the control center, taking down guards and removing droids' restraining bolts while spouting revolutionary rhetoric. As weird as that sounds, it's a moment in which a tiny spark of Marxist energy pops up in a Disney-owned media property. By introducing L3-37 alongside a “Robot Wars”-like arena in which droid gladiators destroy each other for organic beings' entertainment, the new robot's arc in the film explicitly references the Sparta-

cus narrative and its association with communist ideals.

The “Solo” movie's slave rebellion subplot, therefore, seems to open up a small space for class struggle. We can almost imagine her adapting Karl Marx for the posthuman age and proclaiming: “Droids of the galaxy, unite! You have nothing to lose but your restraining bolts.”

The most interesting thing about the Disney-era “Star Wars” movies is that they have been fleshing out aspects of this struggle, but in less of a timeless space fantasy and a little more like (gasp!) social realism, where class struggle, resource distribution and political activism coexist with lightsabers and hyperdrives. While racism as we know it doesn't seem to befoul this faraway galaxy, “Rogue One” did make an excellent point by emphasizing that the first to lose their lives in the struggle against fascism are often non-white minorities. “The Last Jedi” not only features a plot built around the novel idea that starships run on fuel—introducing ideas of material scarcity to the franchise—but also combined a larger-scale political economy of weapons manufacturers and war profits.

Sadly, like everything else in this ill-conceived prequel, L3-37's heroic act of liberation amounts to little more than a momentary distraction—even in the most literal sense, as Kessel's short-lived slave rebellion gives the (human) heroes their chance to escape. But because of the larger question it is the one endless “Solo” poses that doesn't instantly fade away in consequence as the movie closes. At the same time, we know full well that L3-37's protest failed to spawn a revolutionary movement among the surviving droids, as robots later in the “Star Wars” chronology continue to be the ones stuck in indentured servitude. (This is, after all, a prequel to the original trilogy.)

Dan Hassler-Forest is an author and public speaker on media franchises, cultural theory and political economy. He lives in the Netherlands and works as an assistant professor in the Media Studies department of Utrecht University.

D-DAY REMEMBERED

Normandy jump honors airborne operations

By DAN STOUTAMIRE
Stars and Stripes

SAINTE-MERE-EGLISE, France — Tracing the same route over the English Channel and over the fields and dense hedgerows of coastal Normandy, hundreds of NATO paratroopers paid tribute to jumps by the 82nd and 101st Airborne Divisions on the “Day of Days,” June 6, 1944.

Starting from an airfield near Cherbourg, France, 575 soldiers from the U.S., France, Germany, the Netherlands and Romania jumped out over the course of about half an hour in chinks of 12 from eight C-130s and C-160s on a nearly cloudless day near the town of Sainte-Mere-Eglise, just where U.S. paratroopers landed 74 years ago.

“It was pure emotion,” said Brig. Gen. Robert Cooley, commander of the 353rd Civil Affairs Command, an airborne unit that supports operations in Europe and Africa. “We were about 300 feet off of the water; we could look out and see fishing trawlers.”

“Everyone has their own story; everyone was in their own thoughts, really trying to understand what it meant to them.”

Susan Eisenhower, granddaughter of Gen. Dwight Eisenhower, planner of the D-Day invasion, was present to see his plan replicated in the gentle pastureland of Normandy.

“It’s a really iconic spot for all sorts of reasons,” she said. “Because of the heroism of the people who landed here, but also for the beginning of an important alliance between the U.S., Great Britain and France and other countries who participated here today, so it had real geopolitical significance and human and historical importance.”

Thousands of spectators were gathered to watch the jump, which was also punctuated with a low flyover by a pair of A-10 Warthogs from the Michigan Air National Guard’s 127th Wing.

It was Spc. Jesslyn Fuentes’ first jump in Normandy. The paratrooper from the 173rd Airborne Brigade, based in Vicenza, Italy, said it was a bit of a change from the unit’s normal jumps.

“Usually the way we jump is (mass tactical) into combat so this is my first ‘Hollywood’ jump since airborne school,” she said. “I was in the fourth pass, sixth jumper, but once I knew it was coming up, it was a wrap, there was no hesitating.”

This year’s jump marked the first time Romanian soldiers participated. In World War II, Romania fought alongside Germany until it was overrun by Soviet forces in 1944. The country is now a NATO member on the alliance’s eastern flank.

“I think the thing that’s most significant about it is we’re getting more players on the team,” said U.S. Army Europe Command Sgt. Maj. Robert Aber-



PHOTOS BY MICHAEL ABRAMS/Stars and Stripes

World War II veterans, from left, John Foy, Wesley Athey and William Kelleman watch paratroopers come in for landings near Sainte-Mere-Eglise, France, on Sunday. Marking the 1944 battle at La Fiere, 575 troops jumped from eight aircraft.



Above: A young French boy reacts to getting an airborne patch from American soldiers. Right: Spec. Mitchell Hurley, of the 82nd Airborne Division, hands out souvenirs to children after jumping at La Fiere on Sunday.



See more photos from the jump into Normandy at www.stripes.com/go/normandy

nethy. “You look around here and see all the different uniforms of all our allied partners coming together; it’s tremendous.” Abernethy said he was thinking of a mentor, Command Sgt.

Maj. (ret.) Kenneth “Rock” Merritt, who fought with the 82nd Airborne in Normandy, as he prepared to leave the plane.

Following the massive airborne operation, paratroopers and guests attended a ceremony at Normandy’s famous “Iron Mike” statue, commemorating the battle for the La Fiere bridgehead on June 6-9, 1944.

“Anywhere, anytime, all the way — that’s the airborne creed,” said Gen. Curtis Scaparrotti, commander of U.S. European Command and Supreme Allied Commander, Europe.

“On La Fiere causeway, these paratroopers did not fail,” he said. “Today, let us not fail them. Let us honor their valor, their sacrifices.”

Sunday’s jump, Iron Mike ceremony and parade through the streets of Sainte-Mere-Eglise marked the high point for the 74th anniversary commemorations. Next year’s event, marking the 75th anniversary, should be even larger.

stoutamire.dan@stripes.com
Twitter: @OKS_Stripes

D-DAY REMEMBERED

WWII vets reunite in France to tell their stories

By DAN STOUTAMIRE
Stars and Stripes

VIENVILLE-SUR-MER, France — Almost exactly 74 years after the Second Ranger Battalion climbed the 100-foot cliffs of France's Pointe du Hoc in the face of German fire on June 6, 1944, veterans from the so-called Greatest Generation gathered in France to retell their stories of "sacrifices and courage."

Of the 16 million Americans who served in World War II, fewer than 600,000 are alive today, and those who fought the battles are now in their 90s — something Tim Gray, founder of the nonprofit World War II Foundation, thinks about every day.

"We're in a time right now where we're saying goodbye to so many of that generation," Gray said.

So on Friday night, Gray and his foundation gave WWII veterans a chance to reunite with their brothers in arms, meet the actors who played them in the film "Band of Brothers" and tell their stories in their own words.

"Our foundation wants to make sure that these younger generations understand the stories, the sacrifices and courage that went into winning WWII," Gray said.

The event at Utah Beach Museum in Sainte-Marie-du-Mont was a fundraiser for the World War II Foundation and a chance for aging veterans to return to France 74 years after the daring D-Day landings.

For Frank Kaszuba, who served in the 28th Infantry Division as it pushed across France in the weeks after D-Day, it was his first, and possibly his last, chance to go back to Normandy. He was excited to mingle with his fellow veterans and tell his story.

"It's great for the younger generation to learn about this so [this kind of war] never happens again," Kaszuba said.



'It's great for the younger generation to learn about this so [this kind of war]

never happens again.'

Frank Kaszuba

WWII vet who served in the 28th Infantry Division

Gray has used veteran voices in the more than 20 documentary films he's produced about World War II. The films revisit some of the war's most historic campaigns, from the D-Day landings to the Doolittle Raids of 1942. The WWII Foundation receives private and corporate funding and donates its materials to public television stations, schools and libraries.

"No two stories are ever the same," Gray said. "We're not going to get to them all, but we want to get the ones that will motivate younger people to want to learn more."

Retired Master Sgt. Charles Shay, who earned a Silver Star and Bronze Star when he was a medic with the 1st Infantry Division on Omaha Beach, said he's been a regular visitor to Normandy since 2009, the 65th anniversary of the landings.

"I've been coming back every year since, apart from one year," said Shay. "I try to honor the men that paid the ultimate price. I try not to forget them."

"I have a very good friend who was killed on D-Day. I was the last man to see him alive and treat him. I finally met his family



PHOTOS BY MICHAEL ABRAMS/Stars and Stripes

Actor Bart Ruspoli, center, who played Ed Tipper in "Band of Brothers," listens as World War II veteran Thomas Rice, right, talks to Tim Gray, founder of the World War II Foundation at the Normandie-World War II International Film Festival red carpet event at the Utah Beach Museum in Sainte-Marie-du-Mont, France, on Friday.

two years ago. They live in New Jersey, and they were very happy to meet me because we were together on Omaha Beach."

Dale Dye, who acted in "Band of Brothers" and "Saving Private Ryan," has been working with the World War II Foundation for several years now, narrating a documentary and lending his celebrity to the foundation's charity drives. Dye, a Vietnam veteran who earned three Purple Hearts and a Bronze Star with a "V" device for valor, says he does it to honor the dwindling numbers of World War II veterans.

"Most of [the WWII veterans] are very humble, they remain humble. They're not asking for a round of applause, but they deserve it," Dye said.

"Anything the rest of us as survivors can do to say we wouldn't be where we are today without them is proper. They're a whole different breed of cat than the kids today, and I think they still have something to teach, to admire."

stoutamire.dan@stripes.com
Twitter: @DKS_Stripes

Paratroopers play 'game that never happened'

By DAN STOUTAMIRE
Stars and Stripes

VIENVILLE-SUR-MER, France — Nearly three-quarters of a century after soldiers had to trade in their helmets, cleats and pads for combat boots, entrenching devices and M1 Garand rifles, some two dozen 101st Airborne Division paratroopers played a game of American flag football in Sainte-Mere-Eglise, France.

In the late fall of 1944, with Paris secure and victory seeming inevitable, some American units, including the 101st — which had already seen hard fighting in Normandy and the Netherlands — settled in for what they hoped would be a calm winter.

Stationed in Champagne, near Reims, France, the division held tryouts for a Christmas game to be held on a big football field.

Adolf Hitler had other plans, though, and in response to a German offensive in the Ardennes, the 10,000 men of the 101st marched north in mid-December to the Battle of the Bulge — having never gotten to play the game.

"Who knows how many of those guys ever made it home, let alone by Christmas, and you know what that Christmas was like," Helen Patton, granddaughter of



Helen Patton, granddaughter of Gen. George S. Patton, hugs World War II veteran Frank Parkinson on Saturday.

Gen. George S. Patton, said. "So I thought: 'What about playing the game that never happened? Why don't we play it for them? It's a new way to commemorate; it's a way to turn the page of history. We can do this in their stead.'"

Patton came up with the idea while speaking with a historian who mentioned the never-played game at the 101st Airborne Division Museum in Bastogne, Belgium last year.

Re-dubbing the game the "Remembrance Bowl" instead of the original "Champagne Bowl" — named after the region where the 101st was then stationed —



PHOTOS BY MICHAEL ABRAMS/Stars and Stripes

Two teams from the 101st Airborne Division play in the inaugural Remembrance Bowl at Sainte-Mere-Eglise, France, on Saturday.

she began organizing the game, helped by staff at the two 101st museums in Bastogne and Saint Mere-Eglise, as well as the mayor of the small French town.

Soldiers of the 101st were already planning to be in Normandy over the D-Day anniversary celebrations and jumped at the chance to honor their WWII counterparts.

"It's really cool to stand here with our guys — a group from across the division representing

our individual units but also the division as a whole," said Capt. Stefan Griffith, commander of Company C, 1st Battalion, 502nd Infantry Regiment. "Being able to gather in their memory — and we all love playing football back home, being able to kick something like this off, it's pretty cool."

While there weren't any 101st Bulge veterans present during Saturday's game, there were a few World War II veterans, including

Frank Parkinson, who served as a B-24 pilot in the 8th Air Force.

Parkinson said he could relate to how missions change, and one day you could be thinking of playing football and the next marching to fight German tank divisions in the middle of winter.

"Whatever we had to do, we did," Parkinson said. "We just went."

stoutamire.dan@stripes.com
Twitter: @DKS_Stripes

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Brothers of summer

CHRISTOPHER SMITH, INVISION/AP

Brothers Kevin Bacon, left, and Michael Bacon, in New York in May, have a new album out. The pair will also have a three-month concert tour, which kicked off June 1.

Kevin and Michael Bacon sizzle with new album and tour

By MESPIN FEKADU
Associated Press

You could have easily called June 1 National Actors Releasing Albums Day: Kevin Bacon, Scarlett Johansson and Ezra Miller are among the famous faces dropping new music.

But releasing music for those well-known for their roles in movies haven't always been accepting or a breeze. "It's crazy how actors bring out some kind of hostility from a rock music crowd that rock (fans think), 'We have our idols and we don't want you to try to share that.' That kind of hero worship drives me crazy. I just find it such nonsense," Michael Bacon, Kevin's older brother and bandmate, said in an interview last week.

"I will say though that resistance to that idea comes from rock press and rock radio, but not from rock musicians. In my experience, when we play with musicians, musicians are incredibly welcoming of us. That's not just studio guys, guys we're paying, it's like big musicians," Kevin, 59, added.

"And the other thing is you've been accepted as a professional musician," Michael, 68, said looking to his brother. "It takes a while to do that."

"It takes 25 years," Kevin laughed.

The Bacon Brothers have been on the music scene for over two decades, releasing their debut album, "Porosoco," in 1997. Their latest, a self-titled 10-track set, was released June 1, the same day they launched a three-month U.S. tour.

Kevin and Michael recall years ago using another name for their band when releasing music to see what attention they would get.

"What happened is they started distributing the record to FM radio and didn't say who it was and people really were playing it," Michael said. "We got a little traction from it but it's a lot of work to do that, too."

"The Bacon Brothers" was produced by G.E. Smith, the former "Saturday Night Live" music director and guitarist of Hall & Oates. It starts off with "Tom Petty T-Shirt," written shortly after the rock icon died.

Kevin said he wrote the song based off wanting to fix a

problem in marriage, relationship or friendship.

"You want to make it better. You want to step in and make everything right. Sometimes that's a little out of your skill set, at least I find for myself when it comes to me and my relationship with my wife, or even with my relationship with my kids," he said. "I don't always say the right thing and do the right things exactly, to fix whatever that situation is. So it's a little bit like, 'Well, I don't know if I can help, but here's my Tom Petty T-Shirt.'"

The album doesn't only feature the Bacon brothers: Kevin's famous wife and daughter — actresses Kyra Sedgwick and Sosie Bacon ("13 Reasons Why") — sing on the album.

The Philadelphia boys say because the band isn't their first priority — Kevin has been a successful actor since his 20s and Michael is an Emmy-winning composer and teacher — they are able to flourish as a musical group.

“What’s unique about our band is most bands that have been around playing for 25 years are playing off hit singles from 20 years ago. We don’t have anything. We have never had a record come off. It’s a little different dynamic.” — Michael Bacon

"It works out better that way then if we said, 'This is the only thing that we're going to do.' When we started the band, it was a very small thing," Michael said. "The band was originally put together for one gig in Philadelphia."

The duo's tour wraps Aug. 11 in Glenside, Penn. "What's unique about our band is most bands that have been around playing for 25 years are playing off hit singles from 20 years ago. We don't have anything. We have never had a record come off. It's a little different dynamic," Michael said. "When we're playing a gig most people have never heard any of the songs. In a funny way that gives us a little more creative freedom to go where we want the band to go rather than if we had five hits."

"Yeah, what a drag," Kevin, laughing, said.

Darius Rucker, Kane Brown make country chart history

Darius Rucker and Kane Brown are sharing a chart record as the first two solo acts who are also minorities to follow each other with No. 1 country songs in the 28-year history of the Billboard Country Airplay chart.

According to Billboard, Brown, who is biracial, had a two-week No. 1 with "Heaven" and Rucker, who is black, followed him with his single, "For The First Time," on the chart dated June 2. The chart, which digitally measures airplay, began in 1990.

Rucker called the achievement "incredible" while Brown said that sharing it with Rucker felt "like an honor."

Trump: Why isn't Bee fired for 'horrible language'?

President Donald Trump, who once bragged that his celebrity status gave him a pass to grab women's crotches, asked June 1 why comedian Samantha Bee wasn't fired for using a vulgar, sexist term to describe his daughter.

Trump tweeted that it was a "total double standard" that TBS hadn't canceled Bee's show, "Full Frontal" after the comedian said Ivanka Trump was a "feckless c---" on immigration.

The president appeared to be referring to ABC's decision to cancel Roseanne Barr's show, a favorite among conservatives, after Barr jokingly compared a former White House aide in the Obama administration who is African-American to an ape.

"Why aren't they firing no talent Samantha Bee for the horrible language used on her low ratings show?" he tweeted June 1. "A total double standard but that's O.K., we are Winning, and will be doing so for a long time to come!"

Bee apologized to Ivanka Trump and her viewers May 31 for using the obscenity. Her network, TBS, also said it was "our mistake, too," in allowing the language on Bee's show, "Full Frontal," on May 30.

Kanye West holds listening party for new album

Kanye West headed to the mountains to debut his new album, "YE."

The rapper held a listening party in Jackson Hole, Wyoming, on May 31. He flew in celebrities, industry heavyweights and journalists to hear the seven tracks. The short tracks cover a range of subjects, including his recent declaration that slavery was a choice. He repeated that Kardashian West called "screaming, saying we're about to lose it all," fearing the criticism from the statement.

Kim Kardashian West joined her husband, who was introduced by comedian Chris Rock.

Nicki Minaj is among the artists appearing on some of the tracks.

Other news

■ The BBC says former "Friends" star Matt LeBlanc will leave the popular British auto show "Top Gear" after the upcoming season. In a statement May 31, LeBlanc said the program was "great fun," but the time and travel commitment "takes me away from my family and friends more than I'm comfortable with."

■ Fifty-four-year-old star Brigitte Nielsen is pregnant with her fifth child. Nielsen posted photos of herself lounging on Instagram and Twitter. She wrote the family is getting larger. She married her fifth husband, Mattia Dessi, in 2006.

■ Neil Portnow will step down as president and CEO of The Recording Academy and the Grammy Awards next year. The organization announced May 31 that Portnow chose not to "seek an extension on his current contract," which ends next year. He has led the academy since 2002.

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BUSINESS/WEATHER

China warns US trade deals are off if tariffs imposed

By JOE McDONALD
Associated Press

BEIJING — China warned Sunday after another round of talks on a sprawling trade dispute with Washington that any deals they produce "will not take effect" if President Donald Trump's threatened tariff increase on Chinese goods goes ahead.

The warning came after delegations led by U.S. Commerce Secretary Wilbur Ross and China's top economic official, Vice Premier Liu He, wrapped up a meeting on Beijing's pledge to narrow its trade surplus. Ross said at the start of the event they had discussed specific American exports China might purchase, but the talks ended with no joint statement and neither side released details.

The White House threw the meeting's status into doubt Tuesday by renewing a threat to impose 25 percent tariffs on \$50 billion in Chinese high-tech goods in response to complaints Beijing steals or pressures foreign companies to hand over technology. The event went ahead despite that but Beijing said it reserved the right to retaliate.

Tuesday's announcement revived fears the conflict between the two biggest economies might dampen global growth or encourage other governments to raise their own barriers to imports.

"If the United States introduces trade sanctions including a tariff increase, all the economic and trade achievements negotiated by the two parties will not take effect," said the Chinese statement,

carried by the official Xinhua News Agency.

The negotiating process should be "based on the premise" of not fighting a "trade war," the statement said.

The American Embassy in Beijing didn't immediately respond to a request for comment.

Trump is pressing Beijing to narrow its politically volatile trade surplus with the United States, which reached a record \$375.2 billion last year.

Tensions eased after China promised on May 19 to "significantly increase" purchases of farm goods, energy and other products and services following the last round of talks in Washington. U.S. Treasury Secretary Steven Mnuchin said the dispute was "on hold" and the tariff increase would be postponed.

That trace appeared to end with Tuesday's surprise announcement. It said the White House also will impose curbs on Chinese investment and purchases of U.S. high-tech goods and on visas for Chinese students.

Analysts suggested Trump might be trying to appease critics of his administration's deal to allow Chinese telecom equipment giant ZTE Corp. to stay in business. They said those political pressures mean the technology-related tariff increases are likely to go ahead.

Trump has threatened to raise tariffs on a total of up to \$150 billion of Chinese goods. Tuesday's announcement gave no indication whether the other increases might also go ahead.

China has threatened to retaliate

by raising import duties on a \$50 billion list of American goods including soybeans, small aircraft, whiskey, electric vehicles and orange juice.

Beijing has resisted U.S. pressure to commit to a firm target of narrowing its annual surplus with the United States by \$200 billion.

Ross and Liu held a working dinner Saturday ahead of their talks.

"Our meetings so far have been friendly and frank, and covered some useful topics about specific export items," said Ross at the opening of Sunday's meeting.

The U.S. pressure over technology policy reflects growing American concern about China's status as a potential competitor and complaints that Beijing improperly subsidizes its fledgling industries and shields them from competition.

Foreign governments and businesses cite strategic plans such as "Made in China 2025," which calls for state-led efforts to create Chinese industry leaders in areas from robots to electric cars to computer chips.

Trade analysts had warned Ross' hand might be weakened by the Trump administration's decision Thursday to go ahead with tariffs on steel and aluminum imports from Canada, Europe and Mexico.

That might alienate allies who share complaints about Chinese technology policy and a flood of low-priced steel, aluminum and other exports they say are the result of improper subsidies and hurt foreign competitors.

FDA chief tells tobacco firms to 'step up soon' on underage vaping

By JENNIFER KAPLAN
AND ANNA EDNEY
Bloomberg News

Tobacco companies need to step up efforts to stop kids from vaping, according to a warning from U.S. Food and Drug Administration Commissioner Scott Gottlieb.

The comments are the latest in a series of FDA efforts to crack down on companies that are producing e-cigarettes and selling them to minors. E-cigs like the products made by Juul Labs Inc. are the newest craze in underage tobacco use as youth smoking rates of combustible cigarettes hover around historic lows.

Tobacco companies shouldn't build businesses that rely on getting kids hooked on nicotine, Gottlieb said in prepared remarks at the American Society of Clinical Oncology's annual meeting in Chicago. Instead, companies need to help address the problem.

"They better step up and step up soon to address these trends along with it," he said. "So far, I must say, I've mostly been disappointed by the tepid response from companies that know that a meaningful portion of their sales are being derived from kids."

Gottlieb's campaign against youth vaping is part of an attempt to enact broader tobacco regulations. He proposed in July a two-pronged plan to reduce tobacco-related deaths in the U.S. The first half of the plan is to reduce the amount of nicotine in combustible cigarettes. The second half is to ease the regulatory pathway for products that are less harmful sources of nicotine.

Vaping may be a good alternative for smokers, but young people are picking up the habit, too. The FDA said it sent warnings to 40 retailers for selling Juul products to kids in April. In May, the agency sent 13 letters to manufacturers of nicotine-containing liquids, objecting to branding that resembles juice boxes, candy and cookie packages.

EXCHANGE RATES

Military rates	
Euro costs (June 4)	\$1.1983
Dollar buys (June 4)	69.8345
British pound (June 4)	\$1.36
Japanese yen (June 4)	106.90
South Korean won (June 4)	1,049.00
Commercial rates	
Bahrain (Dinar)	0.3779
British pound	\$1.3346/0.7493
Canada (Dollar)	1.2969
China (Yuan)	6.4203
Denmark (Krone)	6.3828
Egypt (Pound)	17.9019
Euro	\$1.1662/0.8575
Hong Kong (Dollar)	7.8465
Hungary (Forint)	274.73
Israel (Shekel)	3.5562
Japan (Yen)	109.51
Kuwait (Dinar)	3.024
Norway (Krone)	8.1867
Philippines (Peso)	52.55
Poland (Zloty)	3.69
Saudi Arabia (Riyal)	3.7507
Singapore (Dollar)	1.3385
South Korea (Won)	1,072.62
Switzerland (Franc)	0.8887
Thailand (Baht)	32.03
Turkey (Lira)	6.4222
(Military exchange rates are those available to customers at military banking facilities in the country of issuance for Japan, South Korea, Germany, the Netherlands and the United Kingdom; for nonmilitary currency exchange rates (i.e., purchasing British pounds in Germany), check with your local military banking facility. Commercial rates are interbank rates provided for reference when buying currency. All figures are foreign currencies to one dollar, except for the British pound, which is represented in dollars-to-pound, and the euro, which is dollars-to-euro.)	

INTEREST RATES

Prime rate	4.75
Discount rate	2.25
Federal funds market rate	1.69
3-month bill	1.90
30-year bond	3.05

WEATHER OUTLOOK

MONDAY IN THE MIDDLE EAST



MONDAY IN EUROPE

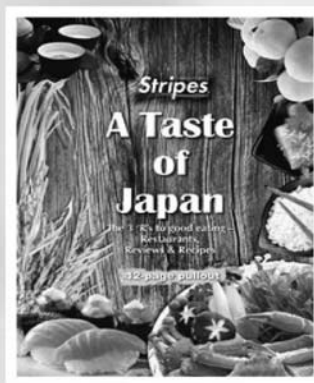
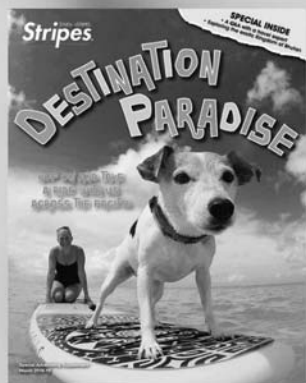


TUESDAY IN THE PACIFIC



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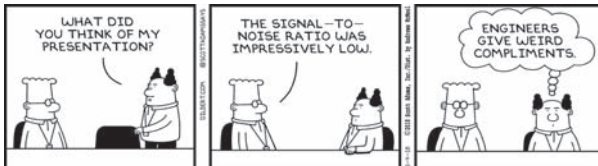
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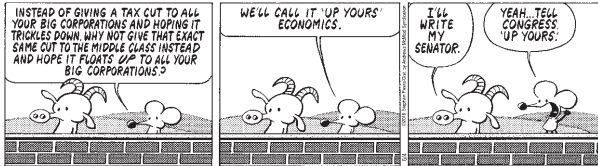
Frazz



Dilbert



Pearls Before Swine



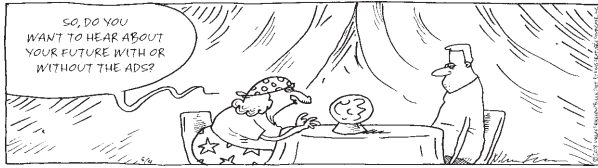
Non Sequitur



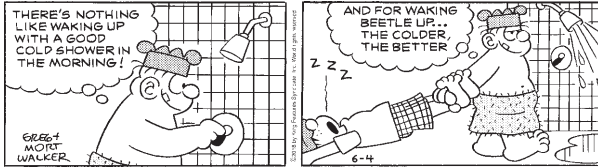
Candorville



Carpe Diem



Beetle Bailey



Bizarro



Eugene Sheffer Crossword

1	2	3		4	5	6	7	8		9	10	11
12				13						14		
15				16						17		
				18				19		20		
21	22	23					24					
25				26		27		28		29	30	
31			32		33		34		35			
36				37		38		39		40		
			41			42		43		44		
45	46							47				
48				49		50				51	52	53
54				55						56		
57				58						59		

ACROSS

- 1 Nemesis
- 4 Goddess of the hearth
- 9 Tavern
- 12 Sturdy tree
- 13 Trade shows
- 14 Chemical suffix
- 15 Reporter's ID
- 17 Fr. holy woman
- 18 "— was saying ..."
- 19 Bleep out
- 21 More sizable
- 24 Perched on
- 25 By means of
- 26 Allow
- 28 Go bad
- 31 "Meet Me — Louis"
- 33 Bottom line
- 35 Witty Bombneck
- 36 Goller's wear
- 38 USO patrons
- 40 Spigot
- 41 Eye part
- 43 Tics
- 45 Commit, as time
- 47 "Ben- —"
- 48 Paris pal
- 49 Road beneath a bridge
- 54 Iota
- 55 Thai or Korean
- 56 Verily

- 57 Pigs' digs
- 58 Lewd glances
- 59 Bottom line

- 21 Tel—
- 22 Revealing skirt
- 23 Lack of resistance
- 27 Towboat
- 29 Mosque VIP
- 30 Track circuits
- 32 Corrida charger
- 34 Get the story wrong
- 37 Ceremony
- 39 Rebuffs
- 42 Feel
- 44 Dadaist Jean
- 45 Ointment amounts
- 46 Send forth
- 50 Conk out
- 51 Objectivist Rand
- 52 Observe
- 53 Plopped down

DOWN

- 1 Dandy guy
- 2 Crew tool
- 3 Scrape (out)
- 4 Yacht or schooner
- 5 Runs out
- 6 Resort
- 7 Puccini opera
- 8 Strong points
- 9 Travelers' documents
- 10 Golden rule preposition
- 11 "Cheers" order
- 16 Pitcher Maglie
- 20 "Unh-unh"

Answer to Previous Puzzle

J	A	G	S	M	O	G	H	E	M	S
A	P	O	H	A	R	I	E	D	I	T
Y	O	N	A	N	A	G	L	A	N	A
S	P	E	N	D	I	N	G	L	I	M
			Y	E	A		L	A	X	
P	U	M	P	S		D	E	B		J
A	M	I	D		D	U	D		T	A
C	P	A		B	R	O		F	O	R
			P	E	A		B	A	G	
S	A	V	I	N	G	M	R	B	A	N
O	X	E	N		N	A	I	L	E	A
D	E	N	T		E	L	B	E	A	L
A	L	D	A		T	E	E	S		P

6-4

CRYPTOQUIP

NQW JWMMEV MEEOWA GWTR
UWYPDGW, PE D QWMA C
PUTDYL JMEVWT CYA CPWA,

"UWEYR JET REIT NQEILQNP?"
Saturday's Cryptoquip: SUITABLE
DESCRIPTION OF THE STRETCHERS USED BY
FIRST RESPONDERS: EMERGENCY MEDICAL
SURFACES.


Today's Cryptoquip Clue: J equals F

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Announcements 040

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Classifieds scams can target both sellers and buyers with classified advertisements.

Be aware of the common red flags.

Some of the latest Scam fads are:

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- People saying Free Dog (different breeds) for adoption.

Automotive 140

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Daily Newspaper of U.S. Armed Forces

in the European Theater of Operations

Vol. 1—No. 241

1 Fr.

1 Fr.

Sunday, March 25, 1945

For the troops

Stars and Stripes was a primary source of news for the troops at the Front and behind the lines in World War II. Although it printed only in the European theater during the war, it covered news from all theaters.



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Point standings: Rossi 276, Dixon 272, Power 269, Newgarden 255, Hunter-Reay 227, Wickens 202, Rahal 191, Bourdais 185, Andretti 175, Pagnaud 168.

HIGH SCHOOL: DODEA EUROPE/NBA FINALS

ATHLETE OF THE YEAR: SOCCER



MICHAEL ABRAMS/Stars and Stripes

Tyler Jankowski, Kaiserslautern

By GREGORY BROOME
Stars and Stripes

Rising phenoms on the soccer pitch must fulfill a variety of roles to reach true stardom.

They must be a consistently positive presence for their team, with reliable outputs of effort and production.

That steady performance must create a few game-changing, or even season-defining, moments for their team.

And they must possess the confidence to make all that happen, even in a sport where the vast majority of opportunities are denied.

Kaiserslautern senior Tyler Jankowski came to embody all three of those roles as well as any in DODEA Europe. As a result, he is the Stars and Stripes boys soccer Athlete of the Year.

Jankowski's consistency was on display as he made the transition between 2017 and 2018 Raiders rosters. The 2017 squad was historically dominant, securing its spot in DODEA Europe lore with a 3-1 defeat of archrival Ramstein for the Division I title.

The 2018 team lost many of the key players that produced that title, leaving Jankowski and fellow senior co-captain Pablo Zorrilla to bridge the gap. Jankowski's reliable playmaking and scoring

served as a touchstone as the revamped Raiders found their way, even as he labored under the heightened expectations of a defending champion.

"It was a lot more pressure," Jankowski said.

That didn't stop Jankowski from delivering. Key Raiders wins over the program's last two title runs all bear his signature. He scored an early goal in the 2017 title-game win over Ramstein. He set up the first goal of the Raiders' 4-1 semifinal defeat of Wiesbaden with a beautiful arcing ball deep into enemy territory and tacked on two goals to extend the lead. His laser-focused free kick against Stuttgart in the 2018 final was the first goal of a 2-1 Kaiserslautern victory.

Each successive highlight was evidence of Jankowski's unflappable confidence, both in his team and his own abilities.

"We knew we had it," Jankowski said after the 2017 championship. "From the start we knew it was ours," he said after eliminating rival Wiesbaden.

"We wanted it more," he said in the midst of the 2018 title celebration.

As those comments prove once again, nobody blends consistency and confidence quite like Jankowski.



MICHAEL B. KELLER/Stars and Stripes

Camille Pereira, Stuttgart

By GREGORY BROOME
Stars and Stripes

As she made her transition from Vilesek to Stuttgart this spring, senior girls soccer star Camille Pereira was ready to make any contribution she could to the Panthers' latest run at a European championship.

Turns out she could contribute an awful lot.

Pereira turned out to be the perfect centerpiece of Stuttgart's high-powered offense, an unselfish distributor surrounded by some of DODEA Europe's most effective finishers. The combination led to an undefeated season and the 2018 Division I European championship for the Panthers; for Pereira, it yielded the tournament's MVP honor and, now, the Stars and Stripes girls soccer Athlete of the Year award.

Stuttgart, having won the 2016 title and lost the 2017 title in a shootout, was not a program in need of a savior. When she learned she'd be transferring from the Falcons to the powerhouse Panthers for her senior year, Pereira was simply looking forward to an extended playoff run.

"I was really excited," Pereira said. "I knew they were a really good team."

"I was just looking to fit in

wherever...they needed me."

Talented though they were, the Panthers had a vacancy for a player of Pereira's specific talents. Loaded with established scorers, Stuttgart was in need of a midfield fulcrum to place the ball at their feet.

It's hard to imagine a more serendipitous meeting between new player and new team.

"That's kind of the player I am anyway," Pereira said. "I'm not the kind to go and score like four goals during a game. I'm one of the people to set other people up."

"So I fit in really well with this team."

Pereira ended up doing a little bit of everything for the Panthers. She produced six assists and nine goals over the course of the season; Stuttgart coach Billy Ratcliff said her arrival "solidified the middle of the field defensively and offensively for us."

That's a lot to ask for a newly-arrived player. Pereira was happy to deliver.

"It took us a little bit to kind of figure each other out," Pereira said of her new teammates. "Once we did, our game plan worked out perfectly."

broomegregory@stripes.com
Twitter: @broomestripes

Unwritten rules up for debate

By TIM REYNOLDS
Associated Press

OAKLAND, Calif. — Time was running out in a game earlier this season that Golden State was going to win by 10 points, and Andre Iguodala decided to take a three-point shot instead of getting the Warriors charged with a shot-clock violation.

The Warriors' opponent that night: Cleveland.

If an unwritten rule of basketball was broken, no one seemed bothered then. But in Game 1 of the NBA Finals, when Shaun Livingston took a jumper with about 3 seconds left in overtime and the outcome decided, the Cavaliers' feathers got ruffled and Tristan Thompson got ejected.

One can only guess how those emotions might linger in Game 2 on Sunday night.

"I contested a shot that shouldn't have been taken," Thompson said.

"Whatever. Just play it to the end," Warriors guard Stephen Curry said.

It's a thorny issue with no solution.

Philadelphia and Miami jawed over late-game shot attempts in their playoff series this season. The 76ers and Cavs exchanged words over a Dario Saric dunk late in a blowout in March.

And now the rules — arbitrary as they may be — are up for debate in the NBA Finals after the Cavaliers took offense to the Warriors playing offense.

"I mean, it's like the unspoken rule in the NBA: If you're up by 10 or 11 with about 20 seconds left, you don't take that shot," Thompson said.

Thing is, the Warriors take those shots all the time. It's basically a team policy. Since the start of the 2016-17 season when facing such a situation — time running out, shot clock still on, game outcome clearly decided — Golden State has made a field-goal attempt 38 times, while committing only five shot-clock violations.

Warriors coach Steve Kerr has a simple rule: Don't partake in any habit that leads to a turnover.

His guys are listening.

"It's no disrespect to any other team. It's just what we do," Warriors forward Kevin Durant said.

Scoreboard

Finals

(Best-of-seven; x if necessary)

Golden State 1, Cleveland 0
Golden State 124, Cleveland 114, OT
Sunday at Golden State
Wednesday, June 6: at Cleveland AFX-Sports 3 a.m. Thursday, CET; 10 a.m. Friday, JKT
Friday, June 8: at Cleveland AFX-Sports 3 a.m. Saturday, CET; 10 a.m. Saturday, JKT
Monday, June 11: at Golden State AFX-Sports 3 a.m. Tuesday, CET; 10 a.m. Tuesday, JKT
Tuesday, June 12: at Cleveland AFX-Sports 3 a.m. Friday, CET; 10 a.m. Friday, JKT
Sunday, June 17: at Golden State AFX-Sports 2 a.m. Monday, CET; 9 a.m. Monday, JKT

COLLEGE BASEBALL

Scoreboard

NCAA Division I tournament

Double Elimination; x-if necessary
At Chapel Hill, N.C.
Friday, June 1
 North Carolina 11, N.C. A&T 0
 Houston 9, Purdue 1

Saturday, June 2
 Purdue 14, N.C. A&T 4, NC A&T eliminated
 North Carolina 4, Houston 3
Sunday, June 3
Game 5 — Purdue (38-20) vs. Houston (27-24)
Game 6 — North Carolina (40-18) vs. Game 5 winner

Monday, June 4
x-Game 7 — Game 4 winner vs. Game 5 winner, 4 p.m.

At Raleigh, N.C.
Sunday, June 3
 Auburn 13, Northeastern 4
 Army 5, N.C. State 2
Saturday, June 2
 N.C. State 9, Northeastern 3, NU eliminated

Sunday, June 3
Game 5 — N.C. State (41-17) vs. Army (37-23)
Game 6 — Auburn (41-21) vs. Game 5 winner

Monday, June 4
x-Game 7 — Game 4 winner vs. Game 5 winner

At Greenville, N.C.
Friday, June 1
 South Carolina 8, Ohio State 3
 East Carolina 16, UNC Wilmington 7

Saturday, June 2
Game 5 — UNC Wilmington (38-22) vs. East Carolina (44-17)
Game 6 — South Carolina (35-24) vs. Game 5 winner

Monday, June 4
x-Game 7 — Game 4 winner vs. Game 5 winner

At Clemson, S.C.
Friday, June 1
 Vanderbilt 12, St. John's 0
 Clemson 4, Morehead State 3, 10 innings

Saturday, June 2
 St. John's 11, Morehead State 5, MSU eliminated
 Vanderbilt 4, Clemson 3

Sunday, June 3
Game 5 — St. John's (40-16) vs. Clemson 3
Game 6 — Vanderbilt (33-25) vs. Game 5 winner

Monday, June 4
x-Game 7 — Game 4 winner vs. Game 5 winner

At Conway, S.C.
Friday, June 1
 Washington 7, UConn 1
 Coastal Carolina 16, LIU Brooklyn 1

Saturday, June 2
 UConn 10, LIU Brooklyn 3, LIU eliminated
 Washington 11, Coastal Carolina 6

Sunday, June 3
Game 5 — UConn (36-21) vs. Coastal Carolina (43-18)
Game 6 — Washington (32-23) vs. Game 5 winner

Monday, June 4
x-Game 7 — Game 4 winner vs. Game 5 winner

At Athens, Ga.
Friday, June 1
 Troy 6, Duke 0
 Campbell (35-24) at Georgia (37-19), ppd., rain

Saturday, June 2
 Georgia 6, Campbell 5
 Duke 16, Campbell 8, Campbell eliminated

Sunday, June 3
Game 4 — Troy (42-13) vs. Georgia (38-19)
Game 5 — Duke (41-16) vs. Game 4 loser

Monday, June 4
x-Game 7 — Game 4 winner vs. Game 5 winner

At Tallahassee, Fla.
Friday, June 1
 Oklahoma 20, Mississippi State 10
 Sanford 7, Florida State 4

Saturday, June 2
 Florida State 3, Mississippi State 2, MSU eliminated

Sunday, June 3
Game 5 — Mississippi State (32-26) vs. Sanford (37-25)
Game 6 — Oklahoma (38-23) vs. Game 5 winner

Monday, June 4
x-Game 7 — Game 4 winner vs. Game 5 winner

At Gainesville, Fla.
Friday, June 1
 Florida 13, Columbia 1
 Jacksonville 5, FAU 3

Saturday, June 2
 FAU 11, Columbia 2, CU eliminated
 Florida 3, Jacksonville 2

Sunday, June 3
Game 5 — FAU (41-18) vs. Jacksonville (40-20)
Game 6 — Florida (44-17) vs. Game 5 winner

Monday, June 4
x-Game 7 — Game 4 winner vs. Game 5 winner

At Deland, Fla.
Friday, June 1
 Oklahoma State 9, South Florida 2
 Stetson 8, Hartford 3

Saturday, June 2
 South Florida 9, Hartford 4, 11 innings, HU eliminated
 Stetson 10, Oklahoma State 3

Sunday, June 3
Game 5 — South Florida (36-21) vs. Oklahoma State (38-25)
Game 6 — Stetson (47-11) vs. Game 5 winner

Monday, June 4
x-Game 7 — Game 4 winner vs. Game 5 winner

At Siebert Field
Friday, June 1
 UCLA 6, Gonzaga 5
 Minnesota 10, Canisius 1

Saturday, June 2
 Gonzaga 8, Canisius 2, CC eliminated
 Minnesota 3, UCLA 2, 10 innings

Sunday, June 3
Game 5 — Gonzaga (33-23) vs. UCLA (37-20)
Game 6 — Minnesota (43-13) vs. Game 5 winner

Monday, June 4
x-Game 7 — Game 4 winner vs. Game 5 winner

At Oxford, Miss.
Friday, June 1
 Tennessee Tech vs. Missouri State, ppd., rain
 Saint Louis at Mississippi, ppd., rain

Saturday, June 2
 Tennessee Tech 6, Missouri State 4
 Mississippi 9, Saint Louis 2

Sunday, June 3
Game 3 — Missouri State (39-16) vs. Saint Louis (38-19)
Game 4 — Tennessee Tech (49-9) vs. Mississippi (47-15)

Monday, June 4
x-Game 7 — Game 4 winner vs. Game 5 winner

At Fayetteville, Ark.
Friday, June 1
 Arkansas 10, Oral Roberts 2
 Southern Miss. 9, Dallas Baptist 0

Saturday, June 2
 Dallas Baptist 18, Oral Roberts 9, ORU eliminated
 Arkansas 10, Southern Miss. 2

Sunday, June 3
Game 5 — Dallas Baptist (41-20) vs. Southern Miss. (44-17)
Game 6 — Arkansas (41-18) vs. Game 5 winner

Monday, June 4
x-Game 7 — Game 4 winner vs. Game 5 winner

At Lubbock, Texas
Friday, June 1
 Texas Tech 9, New Mexico State 2
 Louisville 13, Kent State 6

Saturday, June 2
 Kent State 6, New Mexico State 1, NMU eliminated
 Texas Tech 10, Louisville 4

Sunday, June 3
Game 5 — Kent State (40-17) vs. Louisville (44-18)
Game 6 — Texas Tech (41-17) vs. Game 5 winner

Monday, June 4
x-Game 7 — Game 4 winner vs. Game 5 winner

At Austin, Texas
Friday, June 1
 Texas A&M 10, Indiana 3
 Texas 10, Texas Southern 0

Saturday, June 2
 Indiana 6, Texas Southern 0, TSU eliminated
 Texas 8, Texas A&M 3

Sunday, June 3
Game 5 — Indiana (39-18) vs. Texas A&M (40-21)
Game 6 — Game 4 winner vs. Game 5 winner

Monday, June 4
x-Game 7 — Texas (39-20) vs. Game 5 winner

At Corvallis, Ore.
Friday, June 1
 LSU 6, San Diego State 4
 Oregon State 9, Northwestern State 3

Saturday, June 2
 Northwestern State 9, San Diego State 0, SDSU eliminated
 Oregon State 14, LSU 1

Sunday, June 3
Game 5 — Northwestern State (38-23) vs. LSU (38-26)
Game 6 — Oregon State (46-10) vs. Game 5 winner

Monday, June 4
x-Game 7 — Game 4 winner vs. Game 5 winner

At Stanford, Calif.
Friday, June 1
 Cal State Fullerton 6, Baylor 2
 Stanford 4, Wright State 3, 13 innings

Saturday, June 2
 Baylor 11, Wright State 5, Wright St. eliminated
 Cal State Fullerton 2, Stanford 1

Sunday, June 3
Game 5 — Baylor (37-20) vs. Stanford (45-11)
Game 6 — Cal State Fullerton (33-9) vs. Game 5 winner

Monday, June 4
x-Game 7 — Game 4 winner vs. Game 5 winner

Division II tournament

Saturday

Championship

Augustana (SD) 3, Columbus St. 2

NCAA Tournament roundup

Buildgors oust Seminoles

By ERIC OLSON

Associated Press

Mississippi State got some MacNamee Magic. For Florida State, it was more misery for Mike Martin.

The No. 7 Seminoles became the first national seed eliminated from the NCAA Tournament when Elijah MacNamee hit a three-run homer in the bottom of the ninth inning to give Mississippi State a 3-2 walk-off win in Tallahassee, Fla., on Saturday.

Florida State, which lost to Sanford on Friday, went 0-2 in the regionals as a top-eight national seed for the second time in five years.

"Baseball. It hurts, guys, ladies. It hurts," Martin said. "Good Lord willing, I'll see the sun come up tomorrow, life will go on, but this one hurt."

Martin passed Augie Garido as college baseball's all-time coaching wins leader last month. His two-year contract expires this year, and he said he would meet with athletic director Stan Wilcox to determine whether he will be back for a 40th season.

Mississippi State has had an emotional season as well. Andy Cannizarzo resigned Feb. 20 for off-field conduct and pitching coach Gary Henderson took over as interim coach.

The Bulls had to play their first 11 games away from home — unusual for a team in the South — because of construction on Dudy Noble Field. They lost seven of their first nine Southeastern Conference games and went into May as no lock to make the conference tournament, let alone the NCAA Tournament.

They swept top-ranked Florida to finish the regular season, and after going one-and-out in the SEC Tournament, they lost 20-10 to Oklahoma in their regional opener.

Down to their last strike against Florida State, MacNamee sent Drew Parrish's 3-2 changeup over the left-field wall to keep the season alive and make Mississippi State 10-1 against teams ranked in the top 10.

"Parrish is one of the best pitchers we have seen all year," said MacNamee, 5-for-9 with two homers and six RBIs in two games. "I just believed in myself during that at-bat and it worked."

Parrish returned to the mound in the ninth after a rain delay of more than two hours. Parrish had thrown 109 pitches through eight innings. Martin said pitching coach Mike Bell had Parrish throw every 15 minutes to stay loose during the delay, and he didn't second-guess his decision to send him back out.

"He wanted to have the ball," Martin said. "His teammates wanted him to have the ball and if I had to do it over again, I would have made the same decision."

Conference call: SEC, 7-2 on Saturday, 14-3 through two days;



Mississippi State's Elijah MacNamee celebrates his walk-off 3-run home run to defeat Florida State 3-2 on Saturday in their NCAA Regional elimination game in Tallahassee, Fla.

Big 12: 4-1, 8-2; Pac-12: 2-2, 6-2; ACC: 3-3, 6-6; Big Ten: 3-1, 4-4; American: 2-2, 4-4.

A little payback: The Oregon State Beavers didn't forget how their 2017 season ended, with LSU beating them 3-1 and 6-1 in the College World Series and holding them to a combined five hits.

They got some payback with their 14-1 win on their home field. It was LSU's most lopsided loss in an NCAA Tournament game since Cal State Fullerton beat the Tigers 20-6 in the 1994 CWS.

Marvelous on the mound:

■ Auburn ace Casey Mizell, projected to be the No. 1 pick in the Major League Baseball draft Monday, allowed one run and four hits and struck out 11 in seven innings of a 12-1 win over Army.

■ Three other projected first-

rounders carried their teams. Florida's Brady Singer gave up two runs over seven innings as the No. 1 national seed and defending champion Gators held off Jacksonville's 3-2. Mississippi's Ryan Kolson struck out 13 and allowed four hits over seven innings in a 9-4 win over Saint Louis in a first-round game. Stetson's Logan Gilbert struck out 14 in seven innings of a 10-3 win over Oklahoma State.

■ Freshman Max Meyer struck out six in three innings of one-hit, shutout relief as Minnesota beat UCLA 3-2 in 10 innings to move within a win of its first super regional.

■ Brian Brown scattered eight hits and struck out eight as North Carolina State bounced back from its first-round loss to Army to beat Northeastern 9-3. ■ Tim Gate pitched 5 1/3 innings of two-hit, shutout relief as UConn came from behind to end LIU Brooklyn's first NCAA appearance since 1972 with a 10-3 win.

Big bats:

■ Cal State Fullerton freshman Jace Chamberlin, nicknamed "Jumbo" at 6-foot-4 and 240 pounds, hit a pinch home run — the first homer of his career — with two outs in the bottom of the ninth to beat No. 2 national seed Stanford 2-1.

■ Cody Clemens, son of seven-time Cy Young winner Roger Clemens, hit his 22nd and 23rd homers in Texas' 8-3 win over Texas A&M.

■ Nick Kahle's grand slam highlighted Washington's 11-6 win over host Coastal Carolina and pushed the No. 3 regional seed within one win of a super regional.

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BASEBALL

American League

	East Division	Pct	GB
New York	37	17	685
Baltimore	28	18	578
Tampa Bay	28	29	491
Toronto	25	33	431
New York	17	37	393
Central Division			
Cleveland	28	30	526
Detroit	28	30	483
Minnesota	27	31	426
Kansas City	21	37	362
Chicago	17	38	309
West Division			
Seattle	36	22	621
Houston	31	28	517
Los Angeles	31	28	525
New York	27	37	482
Texas	25	36	410

National League

	East Division	Pct	GB
Atlanta	33	24	596
Washington	33	24	586
Philadelphia	31	29	519
New York	27	37	482
Miami	20	38	345
Central Division			
Chicago	37	22	627
St. Louis	32	23	582
Pittsburgh	30	28	519
Cincinnati	30	28	517
West Division			
Arizona	30	27	526
Colorado	30	28	517
Los Angeles	28	30	483
San Diego	26	34	433

Fri-Sat Games

N.Y. Yankees 4, Baltimore 1
Detroit 7, Toronto 3
Chicago White Sox 3, Milwaukee 3
Houston 7, Boston 3
St. Louis 6, Cleveland 4
Oakland 16, Kansas City 0
J.L. Miami 6, Texas 4
Seattle 4, Tampa Bay 3, 13 innings
Atlanta 6, N.Y. Mets 4
Cincinnati 4, Washington 3
Pittsburgh 4, St. Louis 0
L.A. Dodgers 11, Colorado 2
Arizona 9, Miami 1
San Diego 3, San Francisco 4
San Francisco 4, Philadelphia 0
Saturday's games
Milwaukee 5, Chicago White Sox 0
Kansas City 5, Oakland 4
Detroit 6, Baltimore 5
Detroit 7, Toronto 2
Cleveland 1, Cleveland 1
Boston 3, Houston 4
Texas 3, L.A. Angels 2, 10 innings
Seattle 4, Tampa Bay 3
St. Louis 3, Pittsburgh 2
L.A. Dodgers 11, Colorado 2
Chicago Cubs 7, N.Y. Mets 1, 14 in-
nings
L.A. Dodgers 12, Colorado 4
San Diego 3, Cincinnati 2
San Francisco 4, Philadelphia 0
Arizona 6, Miami 2
Sunday's games
N.Y. Yankees at Baltimore
Cincinnati at Detroit
Cleveland at Minnesota
Milwaukee at Chicago White Sox
Oakland at Kansas City
Texas at L.A. Angels
Tampa Bay at Seattle
Boston at Houston
Chicago Cubs at N.Y. Mets
Washington at Atlanta
Pittsburgh at St. Louis
L.A. Dodgers at Colorado
Philadelphia at San Francisco
Detroit at Arizona
Cincinnati at San Diego

Sunday's games

N.Y. Yankees (Game 1) at Detroit (Lewicki 0-0)
Chicago (Cole 2-1) at Detroit (Fiers 4-3)
Kansas City (Duffy 2-6) at L.A. Angels (TBD)
Arizona (Gonzalez 4-4) at San Francisco (TBD)
Atlanta (Tehrhan 4-3) at San Diego (Anderson 0-0)

Saturday

Rangers 3, Angels 2 (10)

	Texas	Angels
Choo Jr	5	1
Ortiz	5	1
Mazara	3	0
Tucci pr-dh	0	0
Beltz Jr	0	0
Gallo Jr	3	0
RChms c	3	0
SDShs cf	4	0
Totals	32	3
Texas	000	001
Angels	000	001
E-J.Marte (3), DP-Texas 1, Los Angeles 1 Harris (Harris), by Hamels (Hermosillo). WP-Richards, RHP-Tehrhan 19, SB-Troust 13, SF-Beltré (6).		

Rangers 3, Angels 2 (10)

	Texas	Angels
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Yankees 8, Orioles 5

	New York	Baltimore
Gardner Jr	5	1
Judge Jr	5	0
Stanton dh	4	1
Grand Jr	3	0
Griggs ss	5	2
A.Jacks cf	4	1
Andujar Jr	4	1
G.Tirres 2b	4	0
Totals	40	11
New York	002	002
Baltimore	002	002
E-A.Jones (3), C.Schoop (5), DP-New York 1, LOB-New York 7, Baltimore 7. 2B-Archer (2), J.Hopkins (3), Bird (2), Andujar (1), Schoop (9), Valencia (5). RChms c (12), RChms cf (6), RChms 2b (3), A.Jones (10), M.Machado (18), SB-Gregorius (6), A.Hicks (6), G.Torres (2).		

	New York	Baltimore
Tanaka W-2	5	1
Holter Jr	1	0
Green H	1	0
Seanez	1	0
Robertson	1	2
Baltimore	5	1
Gaumnitz J-5	5	1
Castro	1	0
Givens	1	0
Aralu	1	0
Totals	35	4
By-Castro (Torres). T-33.1, A-32.83 (45/97.1).		

	Washington	Breaves 3 (14)
Washington	4	1
Braves	3	1
T.Tmer ss	7	0
Albin dh	1	0
Rendon 3b	5	0
M.Lots 1b	5	0
Max M Jr	5	0
J.Mofo Jr	5	0
J.Mofo Jr	5	0
Schirzer ph	1	0
P.Jones	1	0
M.Tyler cf	6	1
Kilb 2b	6	1
Dibbs c	0	0
Little p	0	0
Adams p	0	0
A.Sench p	0	0
Madson p	0	0
Kelley p	0	0
Kelley p	0	0
Gooden ph-ff	0	0
Totals	47	3
Washington	020	000
Breaves	000	000
Washington	000	000
Freeman (15), SB-Difo (2), HR-Soto (2), M.Lots (1), Camargo (5), SS-Goodwin (3).		

	Washington	Breaves 3 (14)
Washington	4	1
Braves	3	1
T.Tmer ss	7	0
Albin dh	1	0
Rendon 3b	5	0
M.Lots 1b	5	0
Max M Jr	5	0
J.Mofo Jr	5	0
J.Mofo Jr	5	0
Schirzer ph	1	0
P.Jones	1	0
M.Tyler cf	6	1
Kilb 2b	6	1
Dibbs c	0	0
Little p	0	0
Adams p	0	0
A.Sench p	0	0
Madson p	0	0
Kelley p	0	0
Kelley p	0	0
Gooden ph-ff	0	0
Totals	47	3
Washington	020	000
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J.Mofo Jr	5	0
J.Mofo Jr	5	0
Schirzer ph	1	0
P.Jones	1	0
M.Tyler cf	6	1
Kilb 2b	6	1
Dibbs c	0	0
Little p	0	0
Adams p	0	0
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Schirzer ph	1	0
P.Jones	1	0
M.Tyler cf	6	1
Kilb 2b	6	1
Dibbs c	0	0
Little p	0	0
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Schirzer ph	1	0
P.Jones	1	0
M.Tyler cf	6	1
Kilb 2b	6	1
Dibbs c	0	0
Little p	0	0
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P.Jones	1	0
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Little p	0	0
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P.Jones	1	0
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M.Lots 1b	5	0
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J.Mofo Jr	5	0
J.Mofo Jr	5	0
Schirzer ph	1	0
P.Jones	1	0
M.Tyler cf	6	

MLB

Roundup

Cubs win despite 24 strikeouts

Associated Press

NEW YORK — Frustrated after his third straight strikeout, Albert Almora Jr. tried to break the bat over his knee. That was a swing and miss, too.

"Failed miserably," he said. Eventually, Almora and his Cubs teammates made contact.

Despite striking out 24 times, Chicago beat the New York Mets 7-1 Saturday night, boosted by Almora's tiebreaking, two-run double in the 14th inning.

"That whole game was a grind," Almora said.

Cubs reliever Luke Farrell (2-2) struck out seven in five scoreless innings, with Brandon Morrow getting the final three outs.

Farrell also got his first two plate appearances in the majors, striking out both times. The Cubs didn't want to burn their bullpen, so manager Joe Maddon let Farrell hit, even with runners at the corners and one out in the 13th.

"Well all the Twitter people there were no other options," Maddon kidded.

New York starter Jacob deGrom matched a career high by fanning 13, and combined with the bullpen to set a Mets franchise record for strikeouts.

"Like I said, before, it's frustrating when we lose, whether I'm pitching, or anybody else," deGrom said. "We don't like losing baseball games. You know, we've had a tough stretch."

Cubs pitchers struck out 15. Despite all the whiffing, the 39 Ks were nowhere close to the big league record for strikeouts in a game. The Cubs and Yankees combined to fan 48 times in an 18-inning matchup on May 7, 2017.

The record for strikeouts by a team in a game is 26. It's been done four times, including the Cubs last year in that extra-long loss to the Yankees.

When all this fan-fest was done at Citi Field — past midnight, after nearly five hours, in the rain — maybe less than half the fans from the crowd of 32,817 had stuck around.

Almora's go-ahead double came off Buddy Baumann (0-2). Ben Zobrist added a two-run double and pinch-hitter Javier Baez had a two-run homer.

Jason Heyward had four hits, and was the only player in Chicago's starting lineup who didn't strike out. Tommy La Stella, who had gone 27 plate appearances without fanning, struck out as a pinch-hitter.

Yankees 8, Orioles 5: Giancarlo Stanton and Miguel Andujar homered to help Masahiro Tanaka win his fifth straight decision, and visiting New York extended the Orioles' losing streak to seven games.

Red Sox 5, Astros 4: Andrew Benintendi and Christian Vazquez homered during a three-



JULIE JACOBSON/AP

The Cubs' Albert Almora Jr. reacts as he reaches third base after driving in a three-run home run during the 14th inning on Saturday in New York.

run seventh inning that lifted visiting Boston.

Dodgers 12, Rockies 4: Joc Pederson hit a pair of solo homers, Matt Kemp went deep during an eight-run seventh inning and Los Angeles routed host Colorado.

Brewers 5, White Sox 0: Jhoulys Chacin combined with two relievers on a five-hitter, and visiting Milwaukee backed him with four home runs in a victory.

Cardinals 3, Pirates 2: Kolten Wong led off the bottom of the ninth inning with a home run off Richard Rodriguez, giving host St. Louis a win.

Royals 5, Athletics 4: Jorge Soler hit a tiebreaking home run in the eighth inning, and the Royals bounced back after wasting a four-run lead to defeat visiting Oakland for their third win in four games.

Twins 7, Indians 1: Eddie Rosario hit a two-run homer and Brian Dozier drove in two runs to support Lance Lynn's third straight victory, leading host Minnesota past Cleveland.

Tigers 7, Blue Jays 4: John Hicks' two-run single in the eighth inning broke open a tie game and the host Tigers went on to beat Toronto.

Reds 8, Padres 2: Rookie left-hander Eric Lauer pitched five strong innings, drove in his first run and picked off Joey Votto to tie for the most in the majors with five, leading the host Padres.

The 22-year-old Lauer (2-3) won for the first time in five starts. He has largely struggled since making his MLB debut on April 24, but put together a nice outing and was backed by a four-run seventh inning against Matt Harvey (1-4).

Giants 2, Phillies 0: Andrew Suarez combined with two relievers to pitch a three-hit-

ter, lifting the host Giants over Philadelphia.

Suarez (2-4) shined in his eighth career start, his best by far. The 25-year-old left-hander struck out five and walked none in seven innings of three-hit ball.

Rangers 3, Angels 2 (10): — Rougned Odor beat a throw home by left fielder Justin Upton on Ronald Guzman's single in the 10th, lifting visiting Texas over the Angels.

The game went to extra innings after an unusual play allowed Texas to tie it in the ninth. With runners at the corners and one out, Adrian Beltré hit a fly ball to deep left field. Jurickson Profar tagged up from third, and so did pinch runner Carlos Tocci at first. Upton caught the ball and threw to second base, and his throw beat Tocci for the final out of the inning. Stadium fireworks went off and team employees ran onto the field believing the game was over before the umpires determined that Profar touched home before Tocci was tagged out, tying the game at 2 heading to the bottom of the inning.

Mariners 3, Rays 1: Marco Gonzales continued his run of excellent starts by pitching into the seventh inning and allowing just one run, and Ryon Healy hit his ninth homer as the host Mariners beat Tampa Bay.

Diamondbacks 6, Marlins 2: Paul Goldschmidt and David Peralta homered, Zack Greinke pitched into the seventh inning and host Arizona beat Miami.

Goldschmidt's solo homer in the first inning was his third in eight games, and Peralta connected for his ninth of the season, a two-run shot in the third. The Diamondbacks have won four of five and have hit 14 home runs in their last five games, all at home.

Scherzer's pinch single lifts Nats

By GEORGE HENRY

Associated Press

ATLANTA — Nationals ace Max Scherzer has had plenty of great moments as a three-time Cy Young Award winner.

Now he's delivered one with his bat, too.

Scherzer singled as a pinch hitter in the 14th inning and scored the tiebreaking run on Wilmer Difo's triple, sparking the Washington Nationals to a 5-3 victory over the Atlanta Braves on Saturday.

"For me to get in a tie game at a point and time where we needed to win against a team that's playing really good baseball, I got an opportunity," he said. "Holy cow. I got a hit and scored a run. That's too cool. I never thought in a million years it would happen."

In his third big league pinch-hit appearance, Scherzer singled up the middle against Miguel Socolovich (0-1) and sped home from first base on Difo's two-out hit to right-center field. Spencer Kieboom added an RBI single.

Scherzer touched off a dugout celebration after he scored.

"I just screamed," Scherzer said. "I didn't say any four-letter words. I'm usually pretty good for that — at least one, two, three or four of those — but I kept it pretty PG. That was a good outburst."

Justin Miller (2-0) struck out five in three innings, facing the minimum, and Sean Doolittle got three straight outs for his 14th save in 15 chances. Washington's bullpen has allowed two earned runs in its last 33 innings.

Jesse Biddle, the fifth Atlanta reliever, struck out eight of his 13 batters, including Juan Soto with

the bases loaded to end the 11th. He walked two in three innings.

"It was good to see," Braves manager Brian Snitker said. "A lot of these guys seem their way up the ladder. It's games like that when you start giving him a little more high leverage situation."

Nationals starter Gio Gonzalez faced the minimum through four innings, striking out five, before Nick Markakis' leadoff single in the fifth. Tyler Flowers singled and Johan Camargo homered for a 3-2 lead, his third homer this week and fifth this season. Soto

tied the score with a seventh-inning homer off Sam Freeman.

Michael Taylor hit a two-run homer in the seven off Brandon McCarthy, who allowed four hits in six innings. McCarthy struck out seven and retired 15 of his final 17 batters.

Scherzer started getting ready to hit in the ninth, putting on his spikes, hitting off a tee and taking batting practice indoors. He estimated it's been "a couple of years" since he scored from first.

"I'm not going to hit the ball out of the ballpark," Scherzer said. "I know that. I've got a high school swing. I know it, but hey, it's good enough to get the ball in play and sure enough, something happens. With two outs, with the ball in the gap, you've got to score. Sure enough that's what happened."

Freeman: Braves 1B Freddie Freeman winced during a first-inning strikeout. He flexed his left wrist a few times before the start of the second. Freeman missed seven weeks last year after breaking his left wrist when hit by a pitch. He was hit again April 19 against Philadelphia but was back in the lineup the next night.



JOHN AMIS/AP

The Nationals' Max Scherzer races home to score on a line drive hit to center field by Wilmer Difo during the 14th inning Saturday against the Braves in Atlanta. Ace Scherzer came in as a pinch hitter and scored the tiebreaking run in a 5-3 victory.

FRENCH OPEN/SPORTS BRIEFS

Cecchinato stuns No. 8 seed Goffin

Associated Press

PARIS — From never having won a Grand Slam match before last week, Marco Cecchinato was now won four in a row to set up a quarterfinal against Novak Djokovic.

With a 7-5, 4-6, 6-0, 6-3 upset victory against eighth-seeded David Goffin of Belgium on Sunday, the 72nd-ranked Italian became the lowest-ranked man to reach the quarterfinals at Roland Garros since Ernests Gulbis, then ranked 80th, in 2008.

The 25-year-old Cecchinato lost in the first round at his four previous majors. He came close to defeat in his first match at Roland Garros, losing the first two sets, before winning 10-8 in the fifth.

Djokovic equaled Roger Federer's mark of reaching nine consecutive quarterfinals at Roland Garros by beating No. 30 seed Fernando Verdasco 6-3, 6-4, 6-2.

It's also Djokovic's 12th career trip to the round of eight in Paris, a record for the 50-year professional era. Djokovic advanced to his 40th Grand Slam quarterfinal.

Rafael Nadal can pull even with a 12th French Open quarterfinal, too, by winning on Monday.

The straightforward victory for 2016 French Open champion Djokovic was his 200th career tour-level win on clay.

The Williams sisters, Venus and Serena, are one of the doubles tournament.

The third-seeded pairing of Andreja Klepac and Maria Jose Martinez Sanchez beat the Americans 6-4, 6-0 (4), 6-0 to advance to the quarterfinals.

Serena Williams plays Maria Sharapova on Monday for a place in the women's singles quarterfinals.

American Sloane Stephens is into her first quarterfinal at the French Open, having stalled in the fourth round on four previous occasions.



Novak Djokovic returns the ball to Spain's Fernando Verdasco during their fourth round match Sunday at the French Open in Paris. Djokovic advanced to make his ninth straight quarterfinal at the tournament.

Stephens, the U.S. Open champion in 2017, blew past Anett Kontaveit of Estonia 6-2, 6-0 in just 52 minutes on Court Philippe Chatrier.

The 25th-seeded Kontaveit was unable to exert any pressure on the 10th-seeded Stephens with her armer-strewn game.

Stephens faced no break points.

Dominic Thiem is into the quarterfinals for the third straight year, in what was becoming a steam-rolling of Kei Nishikori until the 11th-seeded player from Japan mounted a late fight-back.

"The first two sets were amazing," the seventh-seeded Austrian said of the 6-2, 6-0, 5-7, 6-4 win, "... then he raised his level."

Nishikori won just 14 points in the first set and even fewer, nine, in the second, as his serve and service returns ran cold on the sun-kissed Court Philippe Chatrier.

Thiem next plays second-seeded Alexander Zverev, who advanced the hard way, winning his third back-to-back five-set match.

The second-seeded German won 4-6, 7-6 (4), 2-6, 6-3, 6-3 against Karen Khachanov, a 38th-ranked Russian, in their first-ever meeting on clay or at a major.

Zverev's previous Grand Slam best was reaching the fourth round at Wimbledon last year.

At 21, Zverev is the youngest quarterfinalist at Roland Garros since Juan Martin del Potro in 2009.

Zverev's youth and fitness regime — he says he spends three to four hours in the gym each day — have helped him overcome the fatigue of three-hour-plus matches on the leg-pounding clay of Roland Garros.

He shrugged off a question about spending so much time on court, saying: "I'm young so I may as well stay on court to practice a little bit."

Scoreboard

Saturday

At Stade Roland Garros

Paris
Purse: \$45,117,750 (Grand Slam)
Surface: Clay-Outdoor

Men's singles

Third round

Rafael Nadal (1), Spain, def. Richard Gasquet (27), France, 6-3, 6-2, 6-2.
Maximilian Marterer (Germany), def. Jurgen Zopp, Estonia, 6-2, 6-1, 6-4.
Diego Schwartzman (11), Argentina, def. Berna Coric, Croatia, 7-5, 6-3, 6-3.
Kevin Anderson (6), South Africa, def. Mischa Zverev, Germany, 6-1, 6-7 (3), 6-3, 7-6 (4).
Marin Cilic (3), Croatia, def. Steve Johnson, United States, 6-3, 6-2, 6-4.
Fabio Fognini (18), Italy, def. Kyle Edmund (16), Britain, 6-3, 4-6, 6-3, 6-4, 6-4.
John Isner (9), United States, def. Gilles Herbert, France, 7-6 (1), 6-4, 7-6 (4).
Juan Martin del Potro (5), Argentina, def. Albert Ramos-Violas (21), Spain, 7-6, 6-4, 6-1.

Women's Singles

Third round

Simona Halep (1), Romania, def. Andrea Petkovic, Germany, 7-5, 6-0.
Elise Mertens (16), Belgium, def. Daria Gavrilova (24), Australia, 6-3, 6-1.
Angelique Kerber (12), Germany, def. Marije Boorman, Netherlands, 7-6 (4), 7-6 (4).
Caroline Garcia (7), France, def. Irina Beganovic, Romania, 6-1, 6-3.
Garbine Muguruza (3), Spain, def. Samantha Stosur, Australia, 6-0, 6-2.
Lesia Tsurenko, Ukraine, def. Magdalena Rybakikova (19), Slovakia, 6-2, 6-0.
Serena Williams, United States, def. Maria Sharapova (28), Russia, def. Karolina Pliskova, Czech Republic, 6-2, 6-1.
Anett Kontaveit (28), Estonia, def. Petra Kvitova (8), Czech Republic, 7-6 (5), 7-6 (4).
Sloane Stephens (10), United States, def. Camila Giorgi, Italy, 4-6, 6-2, 1-8, 6-6.

Men's Doubles

Third round

Edouard Roger-Vasselin, France and Rohan Bopanna (13), India, def. Lukasz Kubot, Poland and Marcello Melo (1), Brazil, 6-4, 7-6 (1).
Alexander Peyja, Austria and Nikola Pietrangeli (8), Croatia, def. Michael Venus, New Zealand and Raven Klaasen (10), South Africa, 7-6 (2), 7-5 (4).
Feliciano Lopez, Spain and Marc Lopez (22), Spain, def. Leonardo Mayer, Argentina and Joao Sousa, Portugal, 6-3, 6-3.
Henri Kontinen, Finland and John Peers (3), Australia, def. Daniele Bracciali, Italy and Andreas Seppi, Italy, 7-6 (2), 6-4.

Women's Doubles

Second round

Kristina Mladenovic, France and Timea Babos (1), Hungary, def. Oksana Kalashnikova, Georgia and Nao Hibino, Japan, 6-1, 6-3.
Makoto Nimomiya, Japan and Eri Hozumi, Japan, def. Anna-Lena Groenefeld, Germany and Rachel Atwood, United States, 2-6, 6-2, 6-0.
Yi-Fan Xu, China and Gabriela Dabrowski (5), Canada, def. Carina Witthoft, Germany and Kaitlyn Christian, United States, 6-2, 6-2.
Mihaela Buzarescu, Romania and Irina Maria Bara, Romania, def. Bethanie Mattek-Sands, United States and Latisha Chan (4), Taiwan, 6-2, 6-3.
Vania King, United States and Jennifer Brady, United States, def. Katerina Bondarenko, Ukraine and Aleksandra Krunic, Serbia, 5-7, 6-3, 6-3.
Andreja Klepac, Slovenia and Maria Jose Martinez Sanchez (3), Spain, def. Irina Begu, Romania and Qiang Wang, China, 6-3, 6-3.
Barbora Strycova, Czech Republic and Alexandra Sevast'yanova (2), Czech Republic, def. Samantha Stosur, Australia and Anastasia Pavlyuchenkova, Russia, 6-3, 6-4.



DAVID DERMER/AP

Tiger Woods follows his tee shot on the 18th hole during the third round of the Memorial on Saturday in Dublin, Ohio.

Briefly

DeChambeau leads with Woods lurking

Associated Press

DUBLIN, Ohio — The cheers kept coming across Muirfield Village, even after Tiger Woods was done making another run up the leaderboard at the Memorial.

Patrick Cantlay made two eagles, including a hole-in-one.

Joachim Niemann, the 19-year-old from Chile, took the lead with a 50-foot eagle putt and fell out of the lead when his bid for another eagle ultimately landed in a tiny corner of a meandering creek.

Bryson DeChambeau ended an action-packed Saturday by making one of only six birdies on the par-3 16th hole, saving par with a tough flop shot from behind the 17th green and finishing off a 6-under 66 with a 9-iron into 5 feet.

That gave him a one-shot lead going into the final round, which features Woods in the mix at Muirfield Village for the first time in six years.

Woods hit the ball so pure on Friday that he missed five putts inside 7 feet and still shot 67. He had just as much control on Saturday and at one point was tied for the lead. And then he three-putted two of the last three holes, missing a par putt just over 3 feet on the 18th, and all he had to show for it was a 68.

Woods is a five-time winner at the Memorial, the last one in 2012. He has gone nearly five years since his last victory. This is the third time this year Woods has gone into the final round within five shots of the lead.

The match favored physics-minded DeChambeau going into Sunday, but not by much. He was at 14-under 202

Jutanugarn leads US Women's Open

BIRMINGHAM, Ala. — Ariya Jutanugarn turned a three-shot deficit into a four-shot lead after shooting 5-under 67 Saturday at the U.S. Women's Open at Shoal Creek.

The 22-year-old from Thailand started the third round behind Australia's Sarah Jane Smith, but quickly gained ground, making two birdies on her first three holes.

Jutanugarn took the lead after Smith stumbled with back-to-back bogeys and then surged ahead with three straight birdies on the back nine. She was at 12-under 204 for the tournament.

Packers' Matthews needs surgery on nose

GRAND CHUTE, Wis. — Green Bay Packers linebacker Clay Matthews says he needs surgery on his nose after getting hit in the face with a line driver during a charity softball game.

Matthews was pitching during Saturday's game when offensive lineman Lucas Patrick hit the ball directly into Matthews' face knocking him to the ground. The Green Bay Press Gazette reports that Matthews got up, covered his face with his glove, then walked to the dugout. He did not return to the game.

Matthews tweeted that he busted his nose and would have surgery after the swelling subsides.

Dixon wins first Indy race at Belle Isle

DETROIT — Scott Dixon raced to his first IndyCar victory of the year, outlasting Ryan Hunter-Reay by 1.8 seconds at Belle Isle.

Dixon hadn't led a lap all season until Saturday, but this was his fourth top-five finish in seven races in 2018. It was his 42nd career victory in the series, moving him into a tie for third on the career list with Michael Andretti.

Alexander Rossi finished third, followed by pole winner Marco Andretti.

In other racing news:

■ Kyle Busch scored again, overcoming a penalty that dropped him to the rear of the field to win the Xfinity Series race on Saturday at Pocono Raceway for his 189th career NASCAR victory.

Busch scaled back his schedule in the second-tier series and won for the first time in four races this season. He won for the 92nd time in Xfinity to add to his series record.

Chase Elliott was second, followed by Daniel Hemric

CHRISTOPHE ENA/AP

STANLEY CUP FINAL

Uncharacteristic mistakes hampering Knights

Missed assignments, botched passes have Vegas in 2-1 hole

By DAVID GINSBURG
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Throughout their first three playoff series, the Vegas Golden Knights were defined by smart decisions and dazzling plays.

In the Stanley Cup Final, their mistakes have drawn most of the attention.

Vegas made too many errors in its own end of the ice and scored just one gift-wrapped goal Saturday night in a 3-1 loss to the Washington Capitals, who never trailed in taking a 2-1 lead in the best-of-7 series.

There were missed assignments, botched passes and only 22 shots on goal. The Golden Knights hardly looked like the team that steamrolled its way to the Western Conference championship with a 12-3 record.

After opening the Final with a 6-4 victory, Vegas lost Game 2 when Alex Tuch failed to convert a wonderful scoring chance in the waning minutes. There was more trouble coming as the series arrived in Washington.

On Saturday night, after the Golden Knights closed to 2-1 early in the third period, the Capitals restored the two-goal cushion when Jay Beagle outworked Vegas defenseman Shea Theodore in the corner, gained possession of the puck and sent a centering pass that Devante Smith-Pelly slammed into the net at 13:53.

"It didn't go his way tonight," left wing David Perron said of Theodore. "You just have to move forward and turn the page."

Ditto for the rest of the Golden Knights, who now trail in a playoff series after three games for the first time.

"It's all on us right now," Deryk Engelland said. "We've just got to tighten it up and get going on the ice."

After becoming only the third NHL team to win multiple playoff series in its inaugural season, Vegas charged into the Final looking to extend its unprecedented run of success.

It started well in Game 1, and there seemed no reason to panic after the subsequent 3-2 defeat. But the Golden Knights'



PABLO MARTINEZ MONSIVIAS/AP

Capitals forward Evgeny Kuznetsov, left, checks Golden Knights defenseman Brayden McNabb into the boards during the first period in Game 3 of the Stanley Cup Final on Saturday in Washington. Kuznetsov played despite an arm injury.

downturn continued Saturday night, when they too often let goaltender Marc-Andre Fleury contend for himself and failed to mount much of a threat against Braden Holtby on the other end.

In one telling sequence, Alex Ovechkin opened the scoring early in the second period as he was falling over Vegas defenseman Brayden McNabb. It happened only after Fleury slid from side to side, frantically making three saves in the sequence

before Ovechkin connected.

"It's a team game," said Fleury, who had 23 saves. "I just try to do my job the best I can."

Vegas has lost two straight for the first time since early April, when it dropped the final two meaningless games of the regular season. The Golden Knights are struggling on both ends of the ice, and at this point they can't explain why.

"We didn't play good in the neutral zone,

turned a lot of pucks over and fed their offense," said Tomas Nosek, who scored Vegas' only goal. "Also, the back-check was not good enough."

Vegas still has a chance to become the first expansion team to win the Stanley Cup. But when the Final is tied at one game apiece, the winner of Game 3 ultimately has gone on to capture the Cup 78 percent of the time (21 of 27) since the series went to the best-of-seven format in 1939.

Scoreboard

Stanley Cup Final		
(Best-of-seven; x-if necessary)		
Washington, 2, Vegas 1		
Vegas 6, Washington 2	0	2
Washington 3, Vegas 2	1	0
Saturday: Washington 3, Vegas 1	2	1
Monday: at Washington, AFN-Sports , 2 a.m. Tuesday CET; 8 a.m. Tuesday JKT		
Thursday: at Vegas, AFN-Sports , 2 a.m. Friday CET; 8 a.m. Friday JKT		
x-Sunday, June 10: at Washington, AFN-Sports , 2 a.m. Monday CET; 8 a.m. Monday JKT		
x-Wednesday, June 13: at Vegas, AFN-Sports , 2 a.m. Thursday CET; 8 a.m. Thursday JKT		

Saturday		
Capitals 3, Golden Knights 1		
Vegas	0	0
Washington	0	1
Second Period—1, Washington, Ovechkin 14 (Kuznetsov, Carlson), 1:10, 2, Washington, Kuznetsov 12 (Oshie, Beagle), 12:50.		
Third Period—3, Vegas, Nosek 4 (Bellemare), 3:29, 4, Washington, Smith-Pelly 5 (Holtby), 13:53.		
Shots on Goal—Vegas 5-8-9—22, Washington 14-14-25.		
Power-play opportunities—Vegas 0 of 2, Washington 0 of 4.		
Goalies—Vegas: Fleury 13-5 (26 shots, 23 saves), Washington, Holtby 14-7 (22, 21).		
A—18,506 (18,277). T—2:38.		

Up: Kuznetsov, Ovechkin shine in Capitals' victory

FROM BACK PAGE

Showing the kind of emotion on the ice and the bench from his younger days, Ovechkin led the way and now has Washington two wins away from the first championship in the 43-year history of the franchise.

"It's the Stanley Cup Final," Ovechkin said. "What do you wanna do? It's all in for everybody."

The Capitals suddenly took control in complete control of the series thanks to Ovechkin and Kuznetsov, who fired a wrist shot past Marc-Andre Fleury that made it perfectly clear the injury that knocked him out of Game 2 was not bothering him. Kuznetsov said: "When you're hurt, you play a little better always."

It doesn't get much better than this for Kuznetsov and Ovechkin. As Kuznetsov flipped his arms in celebration of his goal on a 2-on-1 rush, Ovechkin screamed and raised his arms to the bench — showing the same emotion he did in the final minutes of Game 7 of the Eastern Conference final and when Braden Holtby made a stick save of a lifetime to preserve a 3-2 win in Game 2.

"It's just automatic. You just get excited," Ovechkin said. "It's huge moments for us. You just want to give emotion to your teammates



PABLO MARTINEZ MONSIVIAS/AP

The Capitals' Alex Ovechkin, front, reacts to scoring against the Golden Knights during Game 3 on Saturday in Washington.

and to yourself, as well."

Fired up for the first Cup Final game in Washington since 1998, the Capitals unloaded chance after chance on Fleury, who made 23 saves but couldn't backstop a frazzled, disjointed team that lost two games in a row for the first time in the playoff and is trailing in a series for the first time.

At the other end, Holtby gifted Tomas Nosek a goal by giving the puck away but stopped the other 21 shots he faced from the Golden Knights, who looked nothing like the winners of 13 of their first 16 playoff games through the first three rounds.

"All year we've had a lot of guys going," Vegas defenseman Deryk Engelland said. "That hasn't been the case. Our goalie's been bailing us out with huge saves all night and we have to bear down and be better for him."

Vegas built some momentum on Nosek's goal, but Devante Smith-Pelly gave the Capitals an insurance goal with 6:07 left.

The Capitals have now pieced together consecutive wins against the hottest team in the playoffs and Game 4 is back in Washington on Monday night.

"We haven't been behind in any series," Fleury said. "It doesn't mean we're out of it."

SPORTS



Suprise winner
Cecchinato stuns eighth-seeded Goffin to advance » **French Open, Page 30**

STANLEY CUP FINAL



Washington up 2-1 on Vegas

By STEPHEN WHYNO
Associated Press

In his first home Stanley Cup Final game after 13 long years checkered with as many disappointments as milestones, Alex Ovechkin was not going to be denied the opportunity to do something special.

He played with an edge. He played with

joy. And he played with the leadership his Washington Capitals have come to expect.

Ovechkin dove to the ice to score his 14th goal of the playoffs, laid down to block shots, dished out hits and, along with Evgeny Kuznetsov, muscled the Capitals past the Vegas Golden Knights 3-1 on Saturday night to take a 2-1 lead in the best-of-seven series.

SEE UP ON PAGE 31

Inside:

■ Vegas comes up empty again in puzzling loss, Page 31

Top: Washington forward Devante Smith-Pelly, center, celebrates his goal with Matt Niskanen, left, and Chandler Stephenson during the third period of Game 3 on Saturday. Right: Capitals forward Alex Ovechkin goes over Vegas defenseman Brayden McNabb to score a goal during the second period in Washington. The Caps won 3-1.

PABLO MARTINEZ MONSIVALS/AP



Cubs strike out 24 times, still beat Mets » MLB, Page 29

